# THE OXFORD PAPER

Thursday, December 7, 2017 No.69 theoxfordpaper.co.uk 60p

Archaeologists unearth settlements Page 3

Hundreds have their say on zero zone Page 5

Oxford City so close to FA Cup history Sport

Weekly leisure guide for in & around Oxford

# 'Lives could be lost' warning as bus night shelters rejected

## Fears for homeless this winter

By Eva Astreinidou

CAMPAIGNERS are not backing down after a plan to use buses as night shelters for homeless people was rejected.

Homes4All, a Witney-based company, was hoping double decker buses would be turned into emergency accommodation for rough sleepers under its JumpStart project.

But a bid for £20,000 funding for the scheme was not supported by councillors at a meeting last week.

Now the group says it will push ahead with raising funds for the project itself, warning homeless people may lose their lives this winter without shelter.

Deborah Robson Grey of Homes4All, said, "I'm heartbroken that the JumpStart bus was rejected by Oxford City Council with no consideration or debate with the coldest winter in a decade due lives could well be lost as a result."

The group hoped there would be enough funding to purchase a bus by the end of the year in time to offer support during the winter for homeless people across the county.

Green councillor Craig Simmons who proposed the motion, said, "It is extremely disappointing that Labour voted [the plan] down without any real justification for doing so."

The vehicle would serve as a bridge between sleeping on the streets and more permanent solutions.

Last week, a citywide event was hosted at Oxford Town Hall with the aim of coming up with a joined up approach to tackling rough sleeping.

The project, which will create a Charter for Homelessness in Oxford by April 2018, has received £25,000 from the city council.

Speaking about his decision to oppose the JumpStart motion, city councillor Mike Rowley said, "It would not have been appropriate 12 hours before [the symposium], to have backed the motion. Although I appreciate the good intentions of the group I couldn't recommend diverting funding to it.

"At the beginning of November I invited Homes4All to the City Conversation, and at that time I made clear to them that unfortunately we don't have public funding available for their project though we are still willing to work with them.

"We'll continue to work with all our other partners to explore every option that could help homeless people."

Oxford recently lost one of its homeless shelters – Lucy Faithfull House – after funding cuts, while plans for a new centre in Rymers Lane, Cowley are currently being worked on.

To make a donation visit crowdfunder.co.uk/jumpstart-bus.

## Claus with a cause

**Don't be surprised if you see thousands of Santas on the city streets on Sunday as they take part in the Santa Run for Helen & Douglas House as this bunch did last year**

**See pages 12&13 for more**

THE OXFORD PAPER

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# Let the sleigh take the strain this festive season

WITH Christmas around the corner the UK's fastest sleigh could soon be making its way to Oxfordshire train stations

Chiltern Railways has unveiled a new festive wrap on one of its silver trains, now dubbed the Chiltern Santa train.

According to the company, the Santa train will fly down the track at 100 miles per hour and is the perfect way for Santa to deliver presents and transport customers between London Marylebone and Birmingham Moor Street

This comes as part of the company's 'Get Festive' campaign, where specialist train sleigh makers were recruited to install a wrap of Santa's sleigh over a two-day period.

Santa's elves have also been recruited to bring Christmas cheer and will be helping customers at Chiltern stations

The transformed train will feature on the Chiltern line until after Christmas

# Museum evacuated after fire breaks out

A PLUMBER accidentally started a fire in the basement of an Oxford museum.

Pitt Rivers Museum was evacuated after smoke alarms sounded and firefighters were greeted at the South Parks Road museum by a smoke-logged underground service room after a plumber set light to insulation in a service duct using a gas torch.

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue said three fire engines were sent to the museum, and that the 'swift intervention' of the teams safely extinguished the fire, which broke out two floors below the ground floor

Crews also praised the "quick thinking" university staff after everyone in the building was safely evacuated on Thursday afternoon last week.

Fire incident commander, watch manager Ricky Thomas said: "I would urge tradespersons that use hot works to take time to review their safe systems of work surrounding the use of such equipment.

"Fortunately on this occasion, the university had working smoke alarms on each floor and effective emergency plans in place which both resulted in a safe outcome."

## InBrief

### Driver's sentence appeal rejected

A LORRY driver who killed four people after smashing into stationary traffic on the A34 has had his sentence appeal rejected.

Tomasz Kroker, 30, was changing music on his phone at the time of the crash and was jailed for 10 years for four counts of causing death by dangerous driving after the incident at East Ilsley in August 2016

The tragic collision caused the vehicle carrying Tracy Houghton, 45 and her sons Ethan, 13 and 11-year-old Josh as well as her partner's 11 year old daughter Aimee Goldsmith to be pushed underneath a heavy goods vehicle

The family's Vauxhall Corsa was crushed to a third of its size immediately killing the family, from Bedfordshire.

A further five people were injured in the eight-vehicle collision.

Kroker appealed the length of his sentence at the Court of Appeal but this was dismissed by Judge Brian Leveson on Friday

### Pubs campaign

STAFF in pubs across north and west Oxfordshire will put up posters and wear t-shirts in the run up to Christmas to promote a campaign raising awareness of violent crime

Launched by Thames Valley Police and Cherwell and West Oxfordshire district councils, the 'one punch can kill' campaign will begin tomorrow. The campaign is a response to an increase in violence in the two districts

Visit www.tpck.org.uk for more.

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# Seasonal drink drive campaign launches

By George Welch

POLICE are urging drivers to think about the 'pain and misery' that a reckless decision to take drugs or drink before getting behind the wheel can inflict on innocent people.

A month long campaign that will see an increase in roadside testing to tackle driving under the influence launched last week.

Thames Valley Police launched the campaign as part of Operation Holly to raise awareness but will also be working alongside Hampshire police to carry out operations and extra patrols throughout December

Road safety sergeant for Hampshire Constabulary, Rob Heard said, "All drivers need to understand the gravity and consequences of their actions if they drink and drive. If you are not sure, then it is not worth the risk."

According to TVP, drug and drink driving is recognised by independent research as one of the fatal four' factors that results in collisions that cause people to be killed or seriously injured.

Mr Heard said, "Operation Holly is designed to be a deterrent to any motorist thinking about driving while impaired by the effects of drugs or alcohol

"The importance of personal responsibility for your choices must be emphasised.

"Please think about the pain and misery you could inflict on innocent road users by a reckless decision to drive or ride after taking drugs or consuming alcohol."

Motorists breaking the law can face a criminal conviction, a prison sentence, driving ban and the loss of their job.

As part of the campaign every driver involved in a collision will be asked to provide a specimen of breath in accordance with the Road Traffic Act 1988.

Mr Heard added "I ask people to remember particularly that it is not possible specifically to say how much alcohol you can drink and stay below the limit

"The way alcohol affects you varies depending on your personal characteristics.

"A conviction for drink/drug driving has the potential to ruin a person's life and the incident itself the potential to cause serious injury or death on the roads. It's not worth the risk."

To report a person who is an immediate risk, call 999 otherwise, call 101.

■ A rather different advent calendar has been launched to help prevent burglaries

Thames Valley Police have launched a campaign urging members of the public to take whatever actions they can to deter burglars, warning that in the last six months there has been a 25 per cent rise in burglaries across the area.

The force has released an online advent calendar on Facebook and Twitter with advice on how to stay safe over the next month.

Officers from neighbourhood policing teams will be offering advice to members of the public

Detective chief superintendent Richard Last, said, "By taking just a few simple measures, particularly at this time of year, you can significantly reduce your risk of being a victim of burglary."

# Will culture in 2050 be real or just virtual?

COULD space tourism, virtual sports and gigs be the norm or a 24-hour Oxford be the future?

In the latest phase of a consultation, Oxford City Council wants people to put forward their ideas for the future of culture and leisure up to 2050.

Each week people have been asked their views on an aspect of life in the city from transport and housing to the economy and culture in a bid to create a single document that sets out the city's aspiration for the future.

People are being asked to consider if the way we interact with culture and leisure will be different in 33 years

Professor Anne Trefethen Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Resources and Information Systems) at the University of Oxford, said: "We are extremely fortunate to have some of the world's leading collections in Oxford, located in our museums libraries and gardens.

"By 2050 greater digital capability will not only provide an even richer experience for our visitors but also enable people across the world to engage with the collections."

Louise Chantal, director at the Oxford Playhouse, said: "We don't know and shouldn t know what theatre in 2050 will look like.

"We do know however online and digital technology will enable huge changes in the distribution and reach of live performance, making cross genre and international collaborations far more likely The challenge will be to take the very best of Oxford to the world."

Go to oxford2056 com for more.

# Unexpected discovery at flood scheme

An archaeologist works on the stone causeway discovered near Willow Walk Picture: Oxford Archaeology

By George Welch

ARCHAEOLOGISTS working on the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme have unearthed possible Bronze and Iron Age settlements near South Hinksey

A 'remarkably intact' Medieval stone causeway next to Willow Walk, was uncovered beneath a field with horseshoes lying on top of the cobbles.

Made of rounded river pebbles, limestone and chalk rocks the cobbled road still has ruts in its surface made by cart wheels from hundreds of years ago

For the last three months, a team from Oxford Archaeology has carried out excavations where the proposed flood scheme will be constructed.

Stone flints from hunter gatherer times and roundhouses possibly dating back 4,000 years were also found.

The excavations are now finished and the findings are being analysed.

Oxford Archaeology project manager Ben Ford said the discovery of the roundhouses "was a totally unexpected find"

He said. "There are a number of roundhouses suggesting a small settlement which probably extends under South Hinksey

"We're very excited about the prospect of further work on these roundhouse findings – especially the possibility they indicate that there has been a settlement at South Hinksey from the Bronze Age—we didn t know that before."

The team dug trenches across the whole of the £120million scheme area, from Botley Road down to Old Abingdon Road and near to North and South Hinksey villages.

Catherine Grundey, senior archaeologist for the Environment Agency said it was "unusual to have such a blank canvas to start with" due to the lack of archaeological work previously carried out in the area.

Archaeologists hope to produce a final report early next year.

The aim of the research is to identify and evaluate any archaeology before the flood scheme begins so the impact of the plan on any ancient remains is minimised.

The scheme, designed to protect 1 800 homes in the city is still £4m short of its funding target so its finding deadline has been extended until spring next year by the Environment Agency November was the original deadline

The project was proposed after flooding caused widespread disruption in February 2014 with homes and major city routes cut off for days.

## InBrief

### Bin collections

OXFORD city council has released information for recycling and rubbish collections over Christmas.

Collections will be a day later during Christmas week, while garden waste collections will be suspended for two weeks from December 26, resuming during the week starting January 6

The council can recycle real trees if left without the lights pots and decorations next to the blue bin or sacks on collection day.

For those in the south and north of the city in the red and blue collection zone, the collection of trees will begin the week starting January 16

Residents living in flats without kerbside collections, or anyone wishing to recycle their tree before the 16th is asked to take them to one of the 12 collection points across the city instead, open from December 27 to January 14

For more information, visit https://tinyurl.com/y7jezyn.

### Christmas on ice

THE popular Christmas ice show returns to Oxford this weekend.

Around the world in 80 minutes is the theme for the event this Saturday and Sunday at Oxford ice rink.

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# New recycling proposals

PLANS for a new recycling transfer station and changes to the park and ride at Redbridge have been unveiled.

People were able to view the proposals for the first time, find out the benefits and talk to Oxford City Council's recycling team at the launch event at the park and ride site yesterday.

The proposals include creating an energy self-sufficient recycling transfer station, which will store and bulk up items before they are sent for recycling and remodelling the car park area.

Cllr John Tanner, board member for a Clean and Green Oxford, said: "These proposals involve a revamp of a little-used section of Redbridge Park and Ride and will not result in the loss of any existing parking spaces."

Currently the council sends its recycling material to a transfer station at Culham, a round trip of more than 30 miles.

Mr Tanner said: "Owning a recycling transfer station in the city will make the council's collection service more efficient as less time will be spent on tipping runs. It will also reduce vehicle emissions."

A planning application is expected to be made by Christmas and a formal consultation will take place later.

The Redbridge Park and Ride site. Picture: Graham-Hogg

## InBrief

### Traffic consultation

JOIN a public consultation on traffic proposals for Kennington, Headington and Summertown.

Plans put forward by Oxfordshire County Council include introducing a 40mph speed limit as well as replacing the existing 60mph national speed limit on Kennington Road between Radley and Kennington.

In the Headington West area, new double yellow lines are planned on Stapleton Road to prevent driveway obstruction.

For the A4165 Banbury Road there are proposals to install a puffin crossing on Banbury Road around 10 metres north of its junction with Hernes Road and to introduce a no-right turn restriction for traffic exiting Hernes Road onto A4165 Banbury Road.

To find out more and take part in the consultations open until January 5, visit https://tinyurl.com/ybmh4fmz.

### Lottery funding

EIGHT Oxford community projects will receive grants from the National Lottery Fund – The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (£10 000), My Life My Choice (£10 000) Parasol (£9 950), The Archway Foundation (£9 900) The Natural Effect Community Interest Company (£9 700), Mandela Theatre Company (£9 536), Film Oxford (£9,495) and Headington Action (Headington Festival 2018) (£2,405)

# Support for zero emission zone

By Samantha McGregor

HUNDREDS of people have had their say over proposals to create the world's first zero emissions zone in Oxford.

Under the scheme vehicles would be banned from the city centre in a bid to lower the "toxic levels" of air pollution.

Oxford City Council wants to create the city centre zero emission zone by 2020.

The plans came after a World Health Organisation report named Oxford as one of 11 cities and towns in the UK with dangerous levels of pollution.

Figures from the 2016 report showed the city had above guideline levels of Pm10—particulates that can penetrate the deepest part of the lungs.

In October, the city and county councils launched a consultation over the zero emission zone and have had more than 750 responses.

Survey results showed there was support for the proposals but concerns were raised about deliveries to and from businesses within the zone and access to the zone for disabled people.

People also questioned if infrastructure to improve walking and cycling and electric buses would be introduced in time.

Cllr John Tanner, Oxford City Council's executive board member for a Clean and Green Oxford, said: "The reason for carrying out the consultation was to understand, in detail, what people's needs are, so we can minimise the impact of the Zero Emission Zone on business and residents while maximising the impact on the city's health.

"We must now work urgently to finalise the proposals to make sure they work for everyone and deliver a solution to the toxic and illegal levels of air pollution in Oxford city centre."

Cllr Yvonne Constance, Oxfordshire County Council's cabinet member for environment, said although it was an "exciting time", the "hard work begins to see how we can implement the zone whilst allowing Oxford to thrive economically and remain a wonderful place for its residents to live."

Both councils will work with stakeholders to "explore" available technology and what new infrastructure is needed to take the project forward.

The zero emission zone proposals would ban pollution emitting vehicles from the city centre in phases, starting with some vehicle types and a small number of streets in 2020 to all vehicles by 2035.

Lena Revidon cooked in the final of Young Cooks 2017

# Young chef stirs judges with her food

AN OXFORD pupil made it to the final of a Masterchef-style competition for children.

Lena Revidon, a pupil at Headington Prep School in Oxford, impressed the Young Cooks 2017 judges with her recipe so much she was invited to the final to cook it.

A total of 17 finalists chopped, sliced, stirred and baked their way to produce a two-course meal at the cook-off at East Kent College in Broadstairs.

The youngsters had two hours to cook their meal before it was tasted by judges.

They were judged on taste, presentation, creativity, nutritional value and use of local produce.

Lena created a caramelised red onion, cherry tomato and goat's cheese tarte tatin followed by chocolate and salted caramel fondants.

One of the judges, Gary Storer, of housing association Orbit, said: "This is an amazingly exciting place to be.

"We've got lots of children really enjoying themselves cooking, being creative and confident – it's amazing to see confidence at such a young age.

"It's such a joy to be here."

Another, Leah McDonald, from Three R's Teacher Recruitment, added: "I'm blown away by the children's skills and what they're creating and doing by themselves – especially in the primary category."

To take part next year view youngcooks.org.uk

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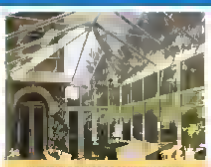

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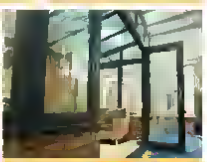

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News

# Meeting hears 'Brexit can be stopped'

BREXIT can still be stopped was the message behind a debate organised by a pro-remain group in Oxford

An audience of more than 200 attended a two-hour meeting organised by Oxford for Europe last week, where they were told that a disastrous hard or no-deal Brexit can still be reversed.

The debate titled Brexit—where do we go from here, included a panel made up of journalists and political scientists, as well as Oxford East MP Anneliese Dodds

David Blackman of European Movement (Oxford Area) said, "All the speakers urged the need for more positive references to the EU it has been good for business, good for workers' rights, good for security and good for the environment."

Ms Dodds came under fierce pressure from the audience and fellow panellists at the meeting.

She confirmed her personal views are and have always been pro-remain.

But she claimed she could not yet commit to supporting an amendment to the current Brexit Bill, which would require an act of Parliament before the UK leaves the EU

She also claimed that her Oxford constituents still favour trying to get the least worst Brexit rather than stopping Brexit, but that the public may well change its mind.

The panel was unanimous in condemning recent statements from government ministers about the existence and content of 58 secret reports on Brexit's economic impact and described the government's current conduct as 'unprecedented and a threat to our democracy.

# Health services under pressure from more homes and old people

By Samantha McGregor

OXFORDSHIRE'S housing growth and ageing population are "significant challenges" as the county's health authorities plan for the future

A report for the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's board meeting on November 30 said by 2026 the county would be short by 109 GPs and recruitment was "unlikely" to be met from "current recruitment patterns"

Another major issue was caring for the frail and elderly – the number of people over 60 is expected to increase by 58,100 by 2032.

It comes as about 60,000 new homes are expected to be built in the county in the next 10 years putting increased demand on primary care services

Last month some operations were cancelled at the John Radcliffe because the service was so overwhelmed.

In a bid to cope with demand OCCG wants bigger surgeries that open in the evenings and weekends to cater for more patients

There would be more local specialist clinics such as bladder and bowel services, while local optometrists could offer a minor eye conditions service.

Another proposal is to "upskill" health professionals such as pharmacists, physiotherapists and mental health workers who could free up GP time.

OCCG also wants to expand the primary care visiting service so more people could be cared for at home rather than in hospital.

There could also be GPs online via Skype and more group sessions and webinars.

The benefits would include fewer admissions to hospital, care being provided closer to home and consistent access for patients.

To start putting some of the proposals into practice, OCCG said in 2017/18 it would need an extra £1.9m.

The report said: "Primary care in the cornerstone of the NHS in Oxfordshire, GPs are the first point of contact for most people and they play a co-ordinating role for each patient's journey across clinical pathways and provider organisations

"There are significant challenges. These include. A changing population with a dramatic projected increase in the number of older people presenting with multiple and complex conditions

"Plans for rapid growth in housing fuelling demand for GP appointments."

It said work pressure was "lowering the morale of GPs" and led to problems retaining doctors.

The board is due to meet again in January

OCCG said the shortage of GPs was a national problem and primary care funding had not "kept up with other services"

## Drugs charge

AN Oxford man has been remanded in custody after he was charged with a drugs offence

Erald Mema, 32, formerly of Awgar Stone Road, was charged with conspiracy to supply cocaine

Mema was arrested in Bicester on November 23 and was charged the following day when he appeared at Oxford Crown Court

He was remanded in custody and will appear at the same court on December 22

The charge relates to conspiracy to supply cocaine from July 3, 2016 to December 2, 2016

## Branches to close

SIX NatWest branches across Oxfordshire are to close next year, the bank has announced.

Branches in Wantage (May 23), Chipping Norton (May 31) Didcot (June 7) Wallingford (June 11), Kidlington (June 13) and North Oxford (June 21) will all shut

The company cited declining footfall and the increased popularity of online banking for the closures.

The announcement is part of a nationwide closure programme by RBS, which owns NatWest. Nearly 700 staff will lose their jobs.

NatWest recently opened a branch in Commarket Street.

# Ambulance crew quizzed over emergency call leak of George Michael's death

By Eva Astreinidou

AMBULANCE staff were questioned by police after an emergency call made following the death of pop star George Michael, was leaked.

The singer was found dead by his partner Fadi Fawaz at his home in Goring-on-Thames, on Christmas Day last year.

Now, a Freedom of Information request has revealed that Thames Valley Police had 'sufficient suspicion' to interview staff members from South Central Ambulance service.

In the document obtained by the journalism department of Highbury College near Portsmouth, it says police launched an investigation in May following the release of the 999 call made by Mr Fawaz.

The document reads: "A man and a woman were voluntarily interviewed under caution as part of the investigation.

"No arrests were made and no further action was taken in relation to the two people."

Picture: Frantzgian

A statement issued by solicitors said the star's family and friends were "truly appalled" that the call was made public.

It continued: "It is deeply distressing to the family that this transcript, and audio recording, has been made public."

How and where the leak happened has not yet been concluded.

Mr Michael was 53 when he died at his home from heart disease and a build-up of fat in his liver.

The singer had a string of hits as part of Wham! in the 1980s before going on to establish a very successful solo career enjoying seven number ones in the UK.

# Shoppers evacuated after alarm goes off at Primark

MASSES of people were rushed out of Oxford's Westgate after emergency sirens went off in Primark.

The centre confirmed the evacuation took place due to a customer accidentally pressing an alarm.

Sirens were sounded in the Primark store at 12.40pm on Sunday and customers were told to get out.

Customers dropped their shopping and were ushered out to Castle Street and walked up to Gonn Square.

At 5.53pm a spokesperson tweeted: "We can confirm that a partial evacuation of #WestgateOxford took place earlier today. This was caused by a member of the public accidentally pressing a fire alarm call point. As part of routine procedure a few minutes was taken to fully investigate before the all clear was given."

Twitter user Smiler said: "Westgate evacuated ... no security staff, nobody really sure what to do other than try to make way out to street. Seriously lack of exits and co-ordination."

William Lehmann tweeted: "There was no evacuation procedure at all. Needs to be better organised with shop staff trained to deal with such a situation. More fire exit signs clearly needed. @Oxfordwestgate. Very very poor. Just glad it wasn't a real emergency. Please sort it out."

Primark spokeswoman Elizabeth Kittle said: "We can confirm the Primark store was quickly evacuated in an orderly fashion and in line with standard safety procedures, which comply with fire safety legislation.

"We are satisfied that our employees acted in a calm and professional manner.

"All Primark employees receive comprehensive fire safety training and regular fire drills are conducted in stores."

# Three vehicles involved in A34 crash

TWO people were treated after a lorry, a caravan and two cars were involved in a crash on the A34.

Police and emergency services were on the scene of the collision near the Marcham interchange shortly after 6.10am on Monday.

Three vehicles – a heavy goods vehicle, a Landrover towing a caravan, and a car were involved in the crash.

Two people sustained injuries and received medical treatment.

The A34 northbound between the Abingdon north and Oxford south junctions was closed for the morning after the crash.

The southbound carriageway was reopened at 9am but was heavily congested. Drivers were advised of other routes to take.

News

# Singers hit the right note with fundraising message at station

By Samantha McGregor

NORTH Oxfordshire commuters were in for a festive treat when a flash-mob broke into song at a busy station.

As December began, Marylebone Station came alive with Christmas cheer after 40 professional signers performed Handel s Hallelujah Chorus and a host of carols

Conducted by musical director Nicholas Cleobury and accompanied by trumpeter Kevin Kay-Bradley, commuters from Bicester, Banbury and Oxford enjoyed the festive surprise.

The event was in aid of Singing for Syrians, a charity initiative set up in 2015 by North Oxfordshire MP Victoria Prentis

Mrs Prentis joined the singers at the station.

She said: "When the first singer broke into song everyone around her was completely taken aback, particularly as she was dressed in Chiltern Railways uniform.

"As others joined in across the station, it was an extraordinary sound and sight which really did raise the roof.

"The whole point of Singing for Syrians is to show that we all have the power to do something.

"By coming together in a positive and uplifting way and singing at the tops of our voices we can all make a difference.

"The flash mob could not have made that clearer"

Mrs Prentis is urging people to host their own event or join the London concert at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, on Tuesday December 12.

Last year s Westminster choir was made up of a group of cross-party MPs, including Robert Buckland, former MPs Fiona MacTaggart and Nicola Blackwood, with performances from celebrities Simon Callow, Alexander Armstrong and Michael Morpurgo.

Now in its third year, Singing for Syrians raises money for the Hands Up Foundation, a charity which pays the salaries of doctors and funds prosthetic limb clinics in the region.

The MP said it was estimated more than 30,000 Syrians are amputees in need of urgent treatment.

Since it started the initiative has raised more than £140 000 for the charity

For more information go to singingforsyrians.com

To see video of the flash mob go to: https://youtu.be/RVaJbY9KJ3o

## Amnesty for Blue Badge 'abusers'

BLUE badge abusers have been given an amnesty window to hand any misused disabled badges back to Oxfordshire County Council.

The council said abusers have until Sunday to hand their badges in – no questions asked.

Last year 600 badges were checked and 12 removed, with 10 warnings issued that resulted in two prosecutions

Oxfordshire County Council is now offering the chance for drivers who are not genuine badge holders to do the right thing and hand them in.

Examples of abuse include using someone else s badge having an out of date badge a dead person s badge having improved mobility or using a badge when the badge holder is not travelling in the car

Cllr Judith Heathcoat, cabinet member for customer services, said: "The blue badge service is a lifeline for many disabled people who cannot travel far from their vehicle

"We would like to give the opportunity to people who may be misusing blue badges to dispose of them and avoid further prosecution."

Motorists can hand badges in at County Hall, at any library around the country or send them to Blue Badge Service, PO Box 173, Oxford, OX1 9NY

Misuse of a blue badge can result in removal of the badge, a fine of up to £1 000 and a criminal record.

More than 22,000 people across the county have a blue badge issued to help with mobility


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# Can you offer Swift a home for Christmas?

By Eva Astreinidou

A nine-year-old pony that had a traumatic start to life is looking for a loving home for Christmas.

Animal charity Blue Cross is appealing for help in finding a home for Swift the pony who was part of a large group of horses that were beaten and neglected.

The adorable pony has come a long way after she and the other horses were rescued and housed at the charity's rehoming centre in Burford last year where inspectors found they were put in cattle crushes and often beaten.

Inspectors also found dead horses all over the farm being eaten by starving dogs when they arrived at the site.

Their owner was later prosecuted by the animal charity.

Blue Cross Burford horse rehoming manager, Vicki Alford, said "Swift is completely adorable—she looks like a Thelwell pony.

"She had never known love and care before she arrived at Blue Cross and due to her traumatic past she will never be a ridden horse but would be fantastic as a companion.

"After seeing some of her fellow stablemates go off to loving homes it would be great if we could get Swift a new family in time for Christmas.

"We are looking for a quiet new home with people experienced in using positive reinforcement training and who will not put pressure on Swift.

"So far she can target beautifully and has had all four feet pick up and been groomed all over but her new owner will have to be patient and give her the time to get used to her new surroundings."

If you are interested in rehoming Swift visit bluecross.org.uk.

## NHS trust to be sentenced over death in March

AN NHS trust which admitted a breach of health and safety regulations after a patient died will be sentenced in March.

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust admitted the single charge relating to the death of teenager Connor Sparrowhawk, at an earlier hearing.

The trust was back at Oxford Crown Court on November 27 to set a date for sentencing.

A decision has yet to be made which judge will hear the case so two dates for a two-day hearing have been set down—March 12 and March 19.

Connor, 18, who had learning disabilities and autism, drowned in a bath after an epileptic fit at Slade House in Headington on July 4, 2013. The facility has now closed.

In 2016 the trust admitted responsibility for his death. They issued an apology and agreed to pay Connor's family £80 000 compensation.

Connor's mother Sara Ryan has been campaigning for those responsible for his death to be held to account.

A second Health & Safety Executive prosecution for the death of Teresa Colvin has be joined with Connor's case. She died while under the supposed care of Southern Health at Woodhaven Adult Mental Health Hospital in Calmore, Southampton in April 2012.

## Man charged over fatal crash

A MAN has appeared in court for causing death by dangerous driving following a three-vehicle crash in Witney.

Stephen Horwood, aged 37 of Green Hill, Oxford, was charged on November 24 with causing death by dangerous driving.

The charge relates to a fatal collision which occurred on September 7 on the A415 Duckington, Witney between a white Transit Van, red Peugeot and silver Mercedes Vito.

The driver of the Peugeot sadly died as a result of the collision and the passenger sustained serious injuries.

Horwood has been remanded to appear at Oxford Crown Court on December 22.


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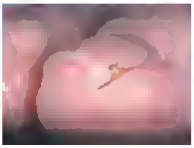

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News

# Road named after town legend

By Samantha McGregor

LEGENDARY campaigner former mayor and councillor George Parish has been immortalised in a Banbury street.

On Saturday fellow councillors cut a ribbon to officially open George Parish Road at new estate Banbury Rise.

Mr Parish died last November after battling Alzheimer's disease for several years.

Before he became ill he led a successful campaign to stop Banbury's Horton Hospital being downgraded in 2008, endearing him to people of the town.

He was also a long-serving town and district councillor, former Cherwell District Council chairman and was awarded an Honorary Burgess of Banbury – the town's highest honour – in 2014.

He earned the nick-name 'Rock 'n' Roll Mayor' after his themed fundraising ball during his mayoral year in 1995 to 1996.

Mr Parish's family, fellow Labour councillors and Cherwell's current chairman Cllr Maurice Billington and his consort Cllr Chris Heath, together with Banbury Rise developer Bloor, gathered as the road was unveiled.

Cllr Mark Cherry, Labour town, district and county councillor said Mr Parish was "loved" by constituents and fellow councillors and was the reason he got into local politics.

Mr Cherry instigated the memorial and in just 24 hours was able to confirm a road could be named after local hero Mr Parish.

He then worked with council officers at both the town and district council and Bloor Homes to make it a reality.

He said: "The late Labour councillor George Parish's political legacy will now carry on with a road named George Parish Road. It's been an honour to be part of making this happen."

Cllr Billington said, "We are very proud to be opening George Parish Road along with our partners. We could not choose a better name to mark this new area with Banbury's local history.

"George Parish deserved to be recognised as 'people's champion' having served as a Labour district councillor for more than 20 years and everyone in Banbury felt an immense sense of loss at his passing last year.

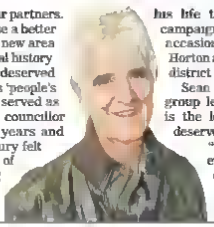
"He dedicated his life to public service, campaigning on several occasions to defend the Horton as a fully functional district general hospital."

Sean Woodcock, Labour group leader, said, "This is the least that George deserves.

"He was loved by everyone regardless of their politics.

"He is a true Banbury legend."

Family, friends and fellow councillors gathered to officially name George Parish Road after the former mayor who died last year



## Pullman's novel book of the year

PHILIP Pullman's latest novel has been named the Book of the Year by book chain Waterstones.

The Oxford author returned to the world of His Dark Materials with the publication La Belle Sauvage in October, 17 years after he finished the original trilogy.

The 71-year old pipped six other candidates to the award after Waterstones staff nominated books they found "truly outstanding and which they have felt most pride in recommending and selling".

Mr Pullman told the BBC he was "very happy" to be awarded a prize given by a bookseller.

He said: 'Booksellers are an absolutely necessary part of the complex ecology of the book world.

"These days the pressure of so many kinds of digital and social and economic and political change is forcing the world of books like so many others, to evolve more swiftly than is sometimes comfortable."

Waterstones managing director James Daunt said: "This is a winner that is going to bring a lot of pleasure to an ever-widening audience and we could not be more pleased to play our part in its success."

Visit tinyurl.com/yatpd88a for a special edition of Mr Pullman's latest work.

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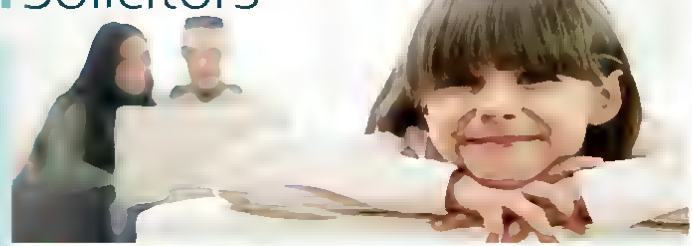

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News

# Students pick up life skills at The Shop

STUDENTS with special educational needs are now running on-campus shops at local colleges to gain valuable life and employment skills.

The shops at Activate Learning's City of Oxford College and Banbury and Bicester College stock a range of stationery, snacks and soft drinks.

As part of their day-to-day role, the students carry out tasks such as cashing up, banking and ordering stock, alongside their English and maths lessons.

The profits from the shops will help fund employment support for the learners when they leave. Activate Learning, an Oxford-based education and training group that runs schools and colleges across the county, to progress into supported internships and paid work."

Janet Johnson, Oxfordshire County Council's strategic lead for vulnerable learners, opens the City of Oxford College shop

Speaking about helping the students engage with employers in the future, Lifeskills faculty director, Michelle Parks, said: "This [scheme] will enable us to grow and engage further with local and national employers to collaborate on designing new programmes.

"Our learning companies provide all of the necessary training to enable SEN learners

Oxfordshire County Council's cabinet member for education, Hilary Hibbert-Biles, said: "This is a great initiative which is providing young people valuable employment experience, while developing confidence, social skills and teamwork in a supportive and busy working environment."

# Help those in need to enjoy a Christmas lunch with others

A LOCAL charity hopes to give all disadvantaged people a place at the table this Christmas.

Aspire Oxford wants to raise £8,000 through a new winter appeal in time for its Big Christmas Lunch on December 14.

The event invites those who may be homeless, unemployed, in recovery or single parents living in poverty to have a seat at the table instead of facing Christmas alone.

The money raised will help pay for the lunch, a Christmas gift for the participants, as well as long-term support from the service.

The event is held in partnership with Oxford Homeless Project, Camerados and Rose Hill Regeneration Project.

Food will be provided by Mid Counties Co-operative in Rose Hill.

To find out more about the Place at the Table appeal or to make a donation visit https://tinyurl.com/yan3swer

By George Welch

HO ho ho! Oxford will glow red this weekend as more than 2,500 jolly Santas run, jog, walk, skip and dance their way round Helen & Douglas House's annual fun run.

The ever-popular festive 3.5k is expected to be bigger and better than ever, with thousands gearing up in aid of the good cause of helping local terminally ill children and young adults.

The charity's events fundraising manager Hannah Garrett said: "The Santa Run is such an atmospheric, wonderfully fun morning for the whole family.

"Seeing over 2,000 people dressed as Santas together running or walking through the beautiful city of Oxford is amazing."

She added: "Taking part means that everyone has great fun at the start of the festive season, and at the same time they are helping raise money so that the charity can provide specialist care for terminally ill children and young adults.

"We rely on donations to run the hospice service and without the support of the community we would not be here for the families who need us."

The 11th Helen & Douglas House Santa Run event starts in Broad Street at 9am on Sunday and goes through University Parks.

Last year 2,200 Santas of all ages donned bright red suits to help raise funds for the Oxford charity.

It costs more than £5million a year to run the two hospice houses in Oxford and provide its outreach nursing service.

It's not too late to sign up for the festive fun and claim your free Santa suit to help raise important funds.

Entry for a family (two adults and

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Have a look in our museum
Book a seat in advance by emailing . pathatch50@hotmail.co.uk

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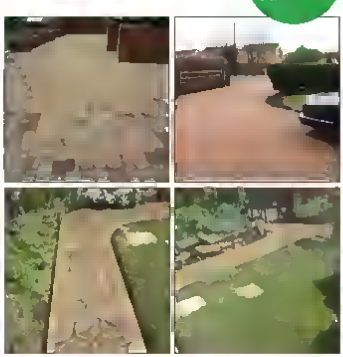

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(two children) is priced at £52, while adults can join in the fun for £19 and children (aged five to 11) for £12. Under fives can take part for free.

Runners are also asked to raise £30 per Santa.

The event is wheelchair and buggy friendly – there will also be free goodie bags and mince pies.

For more information on this year's event and to sign up visit tinyurl.com/yb58lwm4

# Drivers urged to take care as winter begins

THE county's fire service is urging drivers to take extra care as winter draws in and temperatures drop.

Winter weather and longer periods of darkness make driving more hazardous.

Andy Ford, road safety manager at Oxfordshire County Council's Fire & Rescue Service, said: "Reduced visibility and slippery road surfaces make winter driving more difficult.

"We would like to encourage drivers to adjust to road conditions whether it's frost, ice, fog, heavy rain or a low winter sun, please slow down and allow yourself time to react.

"It's not just about preparing yourself but your vehicle – checking your tyres and lights, keeping a kit with an ice scraper, de-icer, hazard warning triangle, torch and high visibility jacket in your vehicle."

## Man cut free after hedgerow crash

A MAN had to be cut from his car after it left the road and crashed in to the hedgerow on a countryside road.

Fire and rescue teams were called to reports of a car that had left the road in Kirtlington on November 29 at 9.15am.

Oxfordshire crews arrived within minutes and found a single vehicle had left the road and crashed in to the hedgerow.

The driver was trapped in the car while firefighters and ambulance staff provided immediate medical assistance.

Station manager Paul Webster said: "This was a serious incident. I would like to take this opportunity to remind drivers to consider the changing road conditions as winter approaches."

To advertise call 01235 511700

# Christmas Parties at
# The Volunteer Inn

## Christmas Menu

**On Arrival**

Mulled wine Or Buck Fizz

**Starters**

Roast pumpkin and charred onion salad (V)(GF)
Beetroot cured salmon, horseradish cream & toast.
Ouck livers on brioche toast with shallot and whisky cream sauce.
Festive parsnip soup with crusty bread (V)(GF)
Sweet potato, brie and spinach tart with cranberry and mixed salad (V)

**Mains**

Bronze turkey with chipolata & bacon, sage & apricot stuffing, masted potatoes & seasonal vegetables (GF)
Veggie wellington roast red pepper, butternut squash, feta cheese, chestnuts wrapped in puff pastry: dauphinoise potatoes, spicy tomato sauce (V)
Roast cod, creamed chicory, sprouting broccoli, caper & parsley butter (GF)
Smoked duck breast salad served with mushroom dressing & madeira and balsamic vinegar reduction and pickled mushrooms, spinach and croutons (GF)
Festive beef burger topped with a pulled pork & cracked black pepper, streaky bacon and roelted brie, with fries, cranberry & BBQ ketchup and sprout slaw (GF)

**Desserts**

Christmas pudding served with crème anglaise
Salted caramel cheesecake with fudge
Chocolate Mousse tart with Vodka Marinated Cherries
Poach mulled wine pear with Christmas pudding ice cream and boney comb and chocolate truffle (GF)
Warm Sticky Toffee pudding with vanilla ice cream (GF)

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**or**

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**(Minimum of four people)**

**Terms and Conditions:**

All menu choices must be pre-ordered a minimum of 10 working days in advance. For the set menu, each course choice must be accompanied by the guest name.
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# Oxford Castle unlocks secret to win award

SEVEN Oxfordshire tourist institutions were honoured at the Beautiful South Awards for Excellence in Brighton last week.

The awards recognise and celebrate excellence in the tourism sector with the aim of inspiring other businesses to reinvest and raise standards in quality, innovation and customer service.

Blenheim Palace was crowned Large Visitor Attraction of the Year and Oxford Castle Unlocked won Small Visitor Attraction of the Year.

Oxford Castle Unlocked marketing manager Saffron Bowdler said: "The castle has played such an important role in the development of our city and it is a pleasure to bring the site's 1,000 years of history to life.

"We are over the moon that the team's commitment to delivering a first class attraction has been recognised with this gold award."

Restaurant 56 at the Sudbury House Hotel in Faringdon won the Best Restaurant/Bistro of the Year.

Other awards included Oxford's Visitor Information Centre silver in the Information Service of the Year, Baskerville in Henley-on-Thames silver in the Pub of the Year, The Chesnuts in Shilton silver in the Self Catering Business of the Year and Wisteria Cottage in Watlington highly commended in the Sustainable Tourism Award.

From left, Emily Hirons, Chris Abbott and Saffron Bowdler of Oxford Castle Unlocked celebrate being named the Small Visitor Attraction of the Year in the Beautiful South East awards

# Festival of Christmas trees

GROUPS and organisations in Adderbury have been busy decorating Christmas trees for an annual festival.

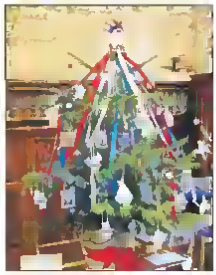
St Mary's Church will be transformed into a festive wonderland over three days culminating with a carol concert.

People can drop in to see the festive display on December 8 and 9, from 10am to 4pm, and December 10 from midday until 4pm, followed by a family Victorian Carol Service which starts at 4.30pm.

All of the trees are sponsored by local organisations, businesses and groups and have been decorated in fun, creative and imaginative ways.

Visitors can vote for their favourite tree. The Rev Stephen Fletcher said: "Our church makes a wonderful setting for a Christmas tree festival. As well as looking at the beautiful trees visitors can explore the church and enjoy some seasonal refreshments and musical entertainment.

"It is a great way to start the festive season. This is the fourth year the festival has run and we are incredibly grateful to our sponsors."



On Saturday bellringers will mark the start of the festival and will be on hand to talk to people and visitors will get the chance to climb into the tower and see the ringing room.

Donations will go to the church restoration fund.

# Cheer ARCh and help them win £2,000

SUPPORT local reading charity ARCh in the Starbucks Cheer for Good campaign and the group could be awarded £2,000.

Assisted Reading for Children, based in Bicester has been nominated to take part in the coffee chain's charity campaign by customers and staff.

Starbucks is celebrating the work of 150,000 causes by inviting supporters to cheer them on social media.

Use the hashtag #CheerforGood and @Archoxfordshire until December 20 – the top 30 with the loudest cheer will receive £2,000.

For more information go to starbucks.co.uk/cheerforgood

# MP turns spotlight on a taboo subject

By George Welch

IT is an "outrage" that thousands of girls have to skip school because they cannot afford sanitary products, an Oxfordshire MP has claimed.

Speaking at Westminster Hall last week, Oxford West and Abingdon MP Layla Moran attacked Chancellor Philip Hammond for failing to commit the funding needed to end 'period poverty'.

The Liberal Democrat used 'one of my most embarrassing moments' during the debate to illustrate her point on the 'taboo' subject.

Ms Moran, a former school teacher, said: "It was the first week of a new school. I was 12, and I was feeling very out of place and very lost and I hear a teacher beckon me from the top of a stairwell.

"I walk towards her 'yes miss, what did I do wrong?'. I was convinced that something was wrong.

"She said 'don't worry, everything's fine, but I wanted to let you know that you've got a stain of blood on your skirt' and of course it was not fine. I looked behind, and indeed on my light blue uniform there was such a stain.

"My face went red, and then it went white and then I went to the bathroom and I remember crying and when I stopped crying I called my mum and she came and I went home.

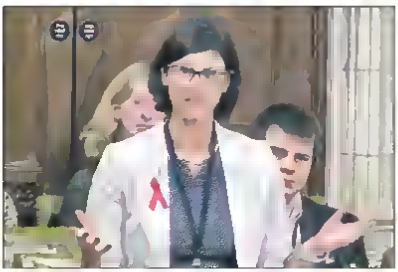
"She had in fact brought another skirt, but I was just so mortified by how many people might have seen it and not said anything."

She added: "For me that was a once off but for thousands of girls in this country not being able to afford the sanitary products and missing school because of it is a regular occurrence.

"It's an outrage that in a country as wealthy as Britain that we let this happen."

Ms Moran said she was disappointed the chancellor didn't make funding available in last month's budget so schools could stock sanitary products – but that £1bn could be found for their deal with coalition partner DUP.

Ms Moran discussed the issue with the Minister for Women Anne Milton and her next step is to convince the government to commit to research and more funding provisions.



Layla Moran MP speaking in Parliament last week

# Timely reminder from RSPCA

AN animal protection charity is reminding people that a dog is for life and not just Christmas as it prepares for a deluge of calls about ill-need animals

The RSPCA revealed last week that its inspectors received a total of 339 calls from Oxfordshire about sick, neglected or abused animals between December 1 and December 31, last year

There were 31 calls across the county on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day alone

The figures come as the charity launches its Kindness at Christmas appeal to help thousands of animals facing neglect and cruelty this festive season.

From poorly, unwanted pets callously dumped on the streets to animals and wildlife deliberately cruelly treated, RSPCA officers are preparing to see heartbreaking cruelty and neglect over the next couple of months

A total of 13,265 incidents – including 366 during Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day – were reported across the south east in December last year and January 2017

The figure increased to 118,799 calls nationwide in the same time period, the equivalent of 1,016 calls a day and 1.3 calls a minute.

RSPCA superintendent Simon Osborne said 'It s a sad fact that every day at work throughout the year can be tough for our inspectors and animal welfare and collection officers but winter really does come with its own challenges and issues

"We expect to take in somewhere in the region of 19,000 animals [nationwide] this winter alone."

To donate to the appeal, visit www rspca.org.uk/winterappeal.

# Pointless host's career advice

BBC TV presenter and comedian Alexander Armstrong shared career advice with Oxford pupils last week.

Mr Armstrong dropped into Oxford's New College School to share stories and advice about the world of show business with about 180 people.

It was the fifth in a series run by New College School, which invited pupils and teachers from nearby local independent and state schools to join the session.

Mr Armstrong, best known as part of comedy duo Armstrong and Miller and BBC quiz show Pointless, spoke to pupils about his media career, comedy writing, TV presenting and radio broadcasting.

The event is funded by the Holloway family, who had four sons at New College School, and the lecture programme aims to introduce pupils to inspirational speakers from a variety of professional fields

From left, Lord Howard of Lympne, chair of Hospice UK, Dr Marilyn Relf, Martin McMillan, chairman of the National Garden Scheme and Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, vice president, Hospice UK

# Honoured for 35 years of bereavement care

A DEVOTED care worker who dedicated her 35-year career to helping with bereavement at an Oxford hospice has been recognised with a lifetime achievement award.

Dr Marilyn Relf's career, which has seen her become one of the UK s national pioneers and leading experts in her field, spans across three decades at Sobell House, Oxfordshire's largest hospice

Ahead of her retirement this month, she was handed the Anne Norfolk Lifetime Achievement Award at the Hospice UK awards in Liverpool.

Dr Relf said it was "an honour" to collect her award last month, adding: "It was wonderful to be part of the pioneering days of hospice care."

During her career Dr Relf led the introduction of Sobell House s family bereavement service, which became one of the first of its kind in the UK.

She was head of education at the Churchill Hospital-based hospice for 10 years, influencing and teaching hundreds of health and social care staff at the hospice

She also contributed to research papers and books about bereavement care.

Sobell House clinical lead Dr Mary Miller said, "Dr Relf is renowned for her scientific rigour in understanding issues and professionally interrogating solutions This is combined with a wise, humane, compassionate and creative personality

"It is fitting that Dr Relf concludes her career later this year with such a prestigious and well-deserved lifetime achievement award from Hospice UK."

# Graduates seeking jobs to make a contribution

By Samantha McGregor

GRADUATES in Oxford are looking for "emotional rewards" and "personal fulfilment" from their jobs, new research shows.

A survey by the Department for Education's Get into Teaching campaign talked to 3,000 students nationwide, who were about to enter the job market, including 104 in Oxford.

Based on the Oxford figures 52 per cent said their career motivation was to "make a positive contribution to society"

Three quarters – 76 per cent – felt emotional rewards were more important than practical ones while almost a third – 31 per cent – were also looking for a job that will "make them feel proud"

The survey showed young people see teaching as a job that offers job security and a career progression path.

It comes as Get into Teaching announced its latest teacher training grants, including £26,000 tax-free bursary to train as a teacher in key subjects including

Keith Ryan moved from research into teaching chemistry

science, computing, geography and languages and £30,000 to train to teach maths

Roger Pope, spokesperson for the Get Into Teaching campaign, and chairman of the National College for Teaching and Leadership, said the survey showed teaching was an option for many graduates

He said "It marries the things that this cohort cares most about, helping make a difference to other people and the world around us, whilst also allowing committed and dedicated professionals to pursue their own career goals.

"As a lifelong teacher myself, I see how young people s attitudes and ambitions change with the generations, which is something that helps to keep the teaching profession fresh too."

Keith Ryan, a science teacher from The Oxford Academy in Oxford, said he was "proud" to be a teacher and would encourage others to train.

He said, "I had always been extremely interested in chemistry but after 10 years in research I wanted a new challenge.

"Ultimately I wanted a career that was rewarding and teaching ticks all the boxes – I get to inspire people in a subject I'm passionate about, it is full of emotional rewards and I feel like I'm doing something worthwhile every day

"It is also a structured profession where I have been supported and encouraged to develop my skills and progress."

Go to getintoteaching.education.gov.uk for more information.

# Father Christmas joins the exhibits at Banbury Museum for festive fun

FATHER Christmas has taken his seat at Banbury Museum to meet children and their families at a special Winter Wanderland Grotto.

Visitors can follow a festive trail around the museum and galleries until December 23

Suzi Wild, the museum's education manager, said, "This will be a magical time for all and we're so looking forward to helping Father Christmas meet the children of Banbury."

For tickets go to banburymuseum.org/christmas

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# Sleigh full of gifts for sick children

By George Welch

A SLEIGH brimming with presents and a record breaking £450 have been raised to help bring smiles to children in hospital this Christmas

Generous shoppers are digging deep to make fundraising group Play2Give's Christmas toy appeal the most successful yet.

Our charity of the year raised the gifts at a three-day in-store collection at Tesco Didcot at the end of last month and will be at Sainsbury's tomorrow to collect toys for youngsters at Oxford Children's Hospital.

Mr Play2Give, 29-year-old Andy Baker, said it has been heart-warming to receive so many donations so far, including a bundle worth £2 700 from charity Changing Lives Didcot

Andy who said this year's Sleigh2Give drive is shaping up to beat last year's effort of 3 000 gifts worth £18,000, said, "This year the support from Tesco [store customers] has been even more amazing than previous years

"At the end of the weekend the sleigh was brimming over with new toys and gifts and some had to be put on the table. A record amount was donated to the charity pots – more than £450 – beating last year's total of £343."

Andy along with his elves will deliver the goods on December 17 The team will meet many of the youngsters with the help of sponsors Go Green Taxis and Didcot Mayor Jackie Billington.

There will be a trolley for donations in Sainsbury's Didcot tomorrow (Friday) and St Birinus School – Andy's former school in Didcot – have a fundraising day on December 15.

For more information, or to donate towards the drive, visit tinyurl.com/yev9bw44

Play2Give supporters Maggie Ingram and Linda Latter with Andy Baker

# Top award for mobility firm

AN OXFORDSHIRE based company that helps disabled people get mobile has won a national award

Ability Matters Group whose headquarters are in Abingdon, was named the UK's leading scooter and powered wheelchair dealership at the annual Motability Scheme awards

The award for large fleet Dealer of the Year recognised outstanding service to customers of the Motability Scheme, and was based on direct customer feedback.

The firm was given a customer rating of 9.8 out of 10

Commercial manager Lyndon Reeks said the award demonstrated the company's "exceptional commitment" in going above and beyond for its customers

He said, "We are so proud to have won such an esteemed award

"The team at our Motability Dealership in Oxford – as well as our other specialist retail outlets across the UK – work tirelessly to ensure our customers are safely mobile, without interruption, every day of the year, and we're thrilled to be recognised for it."

The Motability Scheme is an initiative whereby people can lease a mobility package to help them maintain their independence.

>> Got a story? Contact the newsdesk on 01235 516919

# Customers helped restaurant boss to scoop award

A CHEF in Oxford who has won a prestigious award for his authentic take on Indian cuisine says it's down to loyal customers who voted for him.

Loylu Miah, manager of Cowley Road's beloved Majliss restaurant, was crowned Oxfordshire winner at this year's International Indian Chef of the Year

The awards are voted for by customers, which he says 'means more than anything.

He said, "The award is a really big deal to me. I am really proud."

Awards organiser Nijam M Rahman explained, "Majliss was voted the very best Indian restaurant in Oxfordshire on the basis of customer service, quality of food, ambience and value for money

"In all four of those categories Mr Miah got a top result."

Mr Miah and his wife Naryuhan have been running the business for nine years

Speaking about the recent accolade, she said "It means so much to be considered. We have both been in the curry business for quite a while now, my parents used to run a restaurant as well. It's customers who voted for us and it's great from that point of view."

For Mr Miah and his three brothers the award comes after four decades of cooking and serving Indian food around Oxford.

Their father left Bangladesh for the UK in 1972, opening the Moon Light restaurant in Cowley Road the following year

The business grew and moved to Kidlington High Street, where it eventually became Tiffins Tandoori

Following a makeover in 2002, billionaire and then Kidlington resident Richard Branson reopened it.

Mr Miah now manages Majliss with the help of his brothers

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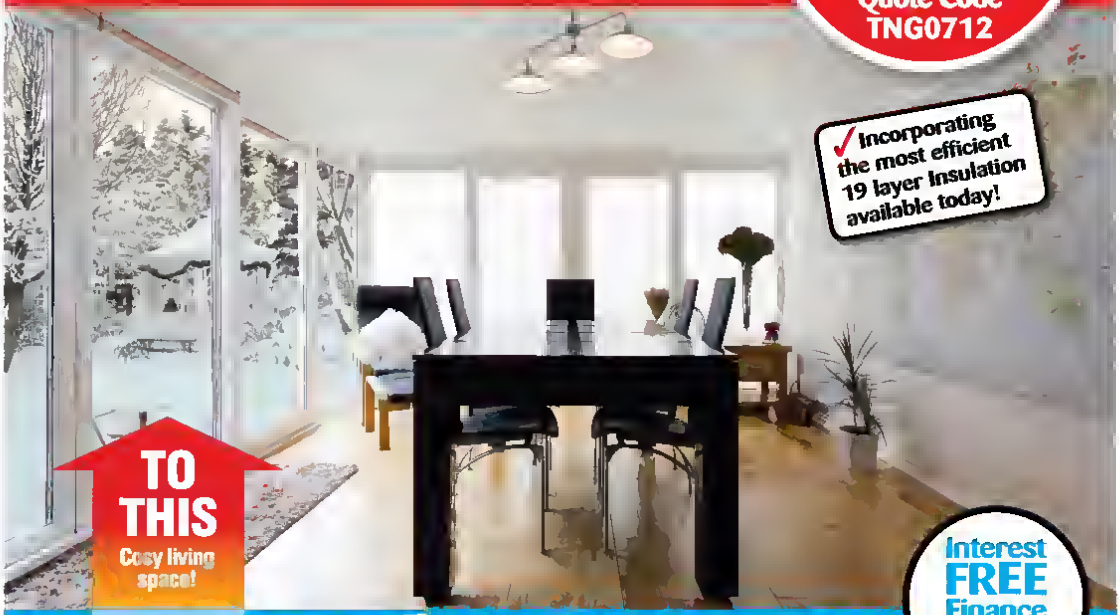


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News

# Musician drums up confidence

By Eva Astreinidou

A ONCE shy Oxfordshire teenager now has something to bang the drum about after performing on one of the most-famous stages in the country.

Talented percussionist Jo Sancio, 18, recently joined fellow Oxfordshire County Youth Orchestra musicians at London's Royal Albert Hall for a special concert marking the end of a national competition.

Just four years ago, she went into care with her confidence low but was encouraged to follow her passion.

She said: "I was so shy when I was younger – I wouldn't have even picked up the phone to you and the first few months after coming into care were very difficult.

"My foster carer has been amazing. She kind of pushed me a bit and gave me the confidence to pursue the things that interest me.

"She took me to see my first concert – an orchestra performing at Dorchester Abbey. I loved it and that's what got me into classical music – and percussion in particular."

The musician's journey to the RAH as part of one of the nation's best youth orchestras is all the more remarkable as she only started with the county music service three-and-a-half years ago – most of the musicians had been performing for longer.

The performance didn't go entirely without a hitch though, with the conductor for one of the pieces asking the percussionists to play an entirely new part on the night, having initially given them the wrong score.

Ms Sancio said: "There was a whole section no one had played before so we just had to improvise which was pretty funny."

Adding another string to her bow, Ms Sancio was recently appointed chair of Oxfordshire's children in care council, ensuring the voices of looked after children are heard.

She's currently working with young colleagues on safeguarding issues to help inform and improve local services, while also preparing to sit her A-levels to fulfil her ambitions of studying a fine art degree at university.

# Illustrator draws pupils' attention as he opens new library

CHILDREN'S book illustrator Korky Paul drew a crowd as he opened a new library at an Oxford primary school.

Windale Community Primary School fundraised through non-uniform days, cake sales and fairs in an effort to buy new books and equipment for the £10 000 refurbishment.

Mr Paul, who lives in Oxford, led a whole-school assembly during which he drew a special edition picture of his 1987 award winning creation Winnie the Witch, which he gifted to the school.

Staff and children at the Windale Avenue school cheered as he cut the ribbon to open the facility last month.

Headteacher Katie Geran-Haq said: "The children are excited to have an on-site library to access a whole range of reading material, including non-fiction, picture books, novels and comics.

"We also have an online 'reading cloud' with e-books where children can review what they have read and blog about their reading."

Work on the project began in September 2016 and was completed last month.

## InBrief

### Junior parkrunners

CHILDREN looking to get more active now have the opportunity to join Oxfordshire's first weekly parkrun event for juniors.

The junior parkrun sessions, open to children aged four to 14 years, will kick off every Sunday at 9am from Brookes Sport Botley.

Runners need to register online prior to attending and bring their barcode with them for the free event.

Visit parkrun.org.uk/register/

### Visit Santa's grotto

HILLTOP Garden Store is getting into the festive spirit with a free Christmas Grotto.

Children and their families can meet Santa at the Chipping Norton store every weekend until December 17, and then every day until Christmas Eve.

Go to gardenstoreonline.co.uk or call 01993 868403

### Rural crime rises

POLICE have reassured rural communities after reports of rural crime in the Thames Valley increased by five per cent between October 2016 and September 2017.

Officers are working with residents, businesses and partners to raise awareness of crime prevention techniques while developing solutions to tackle rural crime. Visit tinyurl.com/yd4bf2ec for more information.

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# Out & About

## In the market for Christmas gifts...?

Festive fare in Broad Street

Seasonal show for the whole family to enjoy – see inside

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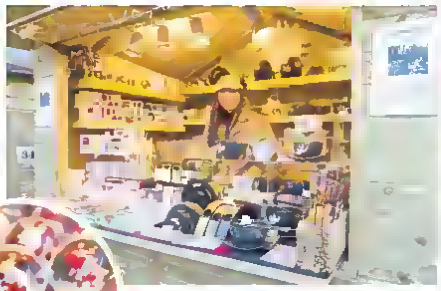
Out Abt

# Festive food and great gifts



CHRISTMAS markets are a popular part of the festive season and a great place to get some unique gifts so you won't want to miss out on Oxford's which starts today

Around 60 festive stalls will tempt you onto the historic Broad Street to shop and enjoy some of the tasty food and drink on offer

There will be stall holders selling natural handmade decorations and gifts and warming food and drink including Churros with hot chocolate sauce and traditional Glühwein

Exhibitors trading their wares include Oxford's much loved ethical and fair trade shop, Indigo, the award-winning liquid deli from Scotland, Demijohn, stylish and original artwork of Oxford by Pitch 26, vintage inspired homeware gifts and accessories from Laurie & Jules, Burrow and Hide, The Upton Cheyney Chili Company, The Fairy Light Company and Oxford Aromatics.

Whether you are looking to consume festive drinks and food while shopping and enjoying the range of carols and bands playing or you're looking for stocking fillers for the foodies in your life, there will be something for all taste buds, many with a European influence

Local choirs and bands will perform throughout the 11 days and children will be able to ride on the Victorian carousel

Nicole Rahimi, owner of Oxford Christmas Market says: "We are really excited about the market once again this year. The location is absolutely perfect, it couldn't feel any more festive. The feedback from last year's market was amazing so hopefully we can improve on that even more this year."

For more information on the market which runs until December 17 and a full list of stalls contact info@oxfordchristmas-market.co.uk

# A hair-raising production

HAIRSPRAY the Musical returns to the Oxford stage next year for a week-long run.

The big, bold and beautiful show comes to the New Theatre Oxford from June 18 to 23, and tickets are on sale now

Featuring iconic music and lyrics this show stars ITV comedy legend Norman Pace as Wilbur Turnblad, Brenda Edwards as Motormouth Maybelle and Layton Williams as Seaweed.

While newcomer Rebecca Mendoza makes her professional debut as Tracy Turnblad.

Set in Baltimore 1962, Tracy Turnblad, is a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, and is on a mission to follow her dreams and dance her way onto national TV

Tracy's audition makes her a local star and soon she is using her new-found fame to fight for equality as well as bagging local heartthrob Link Larkin along the way

Hairspray is a musical based on the 1988 film of the same name which starred Divine and Ricki Lake

The original stage production opened in London at the Shaftesbury Theatre in 2007 and won four Lawrence Olivier Awards including Best New Musical. It has since become an international success

Tickets are available from the New Theatre box office on George Street, by calling 0844 871 3020 or go to atgtickets.com/oxford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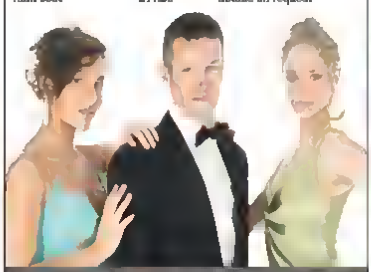

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# Black and Blues with popular hit

By Samantha McGregor

AWARD-WINNING show The Chicago Blues Brothers is set to burst onto the New Theatre stage next month.

The show is a "high-octane adrenaline-pumping musical mash-up" showcasing the best material from the original Blues Brothers movies.

It is jam-packed with songs by legends such as Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Ray Charles, Tina Turner and Cab Calloway – plus many other blues, soul, Motown and funk classics.

It takes to the stage for one night only on January 26.

The Blues Brothers are played by Chris Hindle as Jake and Gareth Davey as Elwood.

They are backed by a seven-piece live band and two talented backing singers.

The Chicago Blues Brothers cast pay great attention to the sound and feel of the music, all performed with the same accuracy, passion, energy and spirit of the legacy created by Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi in the hit movie The Blues Brothers.

Complete with a set designed exclusively by Spanish artist Jordi Machi, the show has been invited to perform at festivals, theatres and arenas all over the world including Switzerland, Dubai, Norway, Poland, Latvia and Thailand.

The original Blues Brothers was founded by Aykroyd and Belushi as part of a musical sketch for US show Saturday Night Live.

But it took on a life of its own and the pair released an album in 1978 called Briefcase Full of Blues, and in 1980 the movie The Blues Brothers was released.

The movie told the story of Jake Blues, a convict on parole, and his brother Elwood who take a mission from God to reform their blues band to raise money to save the Catholic orphanage where they grew up.

It became the 10th highest grossing movie of that year.

Tickets for the show can be bought from the New Theatre box office by calling 0844 871 3020 or go to atgtickets.com/oxford

# Stand up and laugh out loud at comedy club

THE New Theatre's Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club opens its doors again on Saturday with headliner American Dave Fulton.

Also taking to the stage are comperes Damion Larkin and comedians Tom Lucy and Funmbi Omotayo.

Fulton has been described as an American with a sense of humour.

The Seattle-based comedian has played clubs from San Francisco to New York, and notched up many TV credits including a cutting-edge US programme called Comedy Explorers where he was filmed floating down the Grand Canyon.

Fulton is opinionated, ironic, and sardonic and isn't afraid to pull punches in his observations, yet has a deceptively laid-back stage manner that disguises a raw aggression.

His recent television appearances include BBC 2's The Stand Up Show, Channel 5's The Comedy Store as well as BBC2's Never Mind the Buzzcocks and Steve Coogan's Saxondale.

Tom Lucy is something of a unique child prodigy. He's the youngest comedian ever to play professionally at the Comedy Store in London at just 15-years-old, and is one of the youngest comedians working professionally on the UK circuit.

Having first tried stand up at the age of 14, he now performs regularly

**Dave Fulton isn't afraid to pull any punches on stage**

for some of the country's top comedy clubs such as The Glee Club, and in the last six months he has supported the likes of Jack Whitehall and Harry Hill on tour.

In 2015, at the age of 18, Lucy became the youngest ever comedian to be signed to Off the Kerb – the UK's biggest comedy agency.

Funmbi Omotayo is a multi-award-winning comedian and firm favourite with crowds all over the UK.

Funmbi has created a huge storm on the comedy circuit with tales of her Nigerian roots and his hilarious day-to-day observations and his gently paced stories and anecdotes are delivered warmly and confidently creating massive laughs.

For tickets drop into the New Theatre in George Street, call 0844 871 3020, or go to atgtickets.com/lol

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# Wrap up with delightful show

By Samantha McGregor

A NEW Coat for Christmas is a brand-new show for little ones created by The Oxford Playhouse.

Staged at the Burton Theatre, performances of the magical show filled with fun, music and dressing-up, last just 50 minutes.

Based on Harriet Ziefert's post-war children's story, A New Coat for Anna, this play tells the story of a little girl who needs a new coat to keep her warm in the winter.

But times are hard, so she and her mother set about making one – with a little help from their friends.

A New Coat for Christmas takes the audience on a walk through the seasons as the coat slowly comes to life.

As winter turns to spring they visit the farmer and his flock of very fluffy sheep and ask for wool.

In the summer time a spinner and weaver help turn it into cloth and in the autumn the tailor makes it into a beautiful red coat with six pretty buttons.

The coat is ready just in time for the coldest Christmas they have had for a very long time.

A New Coat for Christmas is inspired by a true tale of finding friendship in the most surprising circumstances.

Written and directed by Anna Glynn of Flintlock Theatre, the show stars Lennie Spilsbury, whose previous appearances at Oxford Playhouse include What To Do When You Find A Dinosaur, Robin Hood and Hurry Up Father Christmas.

She appears alongside Laura Soper, who is making her professional acting debut.

This show is an Oxford Playhouse production in association with Flintlock Theatre and Reading Rep. It is the perfect treat for three to six year olds. It runs from today until January 7.

Tickets cost from £7 and are available from the Oxford Playhouse Ticket Office on 01865 305305 or at oxfordplayhouse.com

# Take a spin around a Viennese ballroom

The new year sees the romance of the gilded ballrooms of Vienna brought to life on the Oxford stage.

The Johann Strauss Gala will take to the New Theatre stage on January 21 as part of a UK and Ireland tour.

With the Johann Strauss Dancers in glorious costumes of the period, the theatre will become the Viennese ballrooms of the 19th century, when the composer created his musical works.

The show features the gentle humour of Wine, Women and Song with its swirling flourish and brass fanfare, the sparkle of the polka and the toe-tapping, hand-clapping favourite Radetsky March to the evocative Blue Danube Waltz.

Other classics include Audition Aria from Die Fledermaus, Vienna, City of my Dreams and many more.

The performance is directed and choreographed by Alexandra Worrall. The conductor is John Rigby and will feature soprano Connne Cowling and tenor Nicky Spence.

Tickets are available from the New Theatre box office by calling 0844 871 3020 or go to atgtickets.com/oxford.

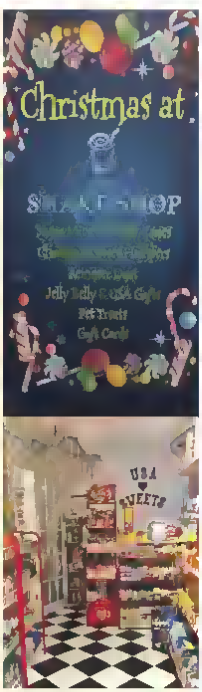
# Overflowing with festive favourites

Folk quartet St Agnes Fountain will perform at Nettlebed Folk Club on Monday.

Made up of founder David Hughes, Fairport Convention's Chris Leslie and 2009's BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards Best Duo Chris While and Julie Matthews, the band come together for one month every year for the Christmas Tour.

During each show they perform rhythmed-up carols and festive music.

For more information or tickets go to whileandmatthews.co.uk.

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## Competition

# WIN tickets to the awe-inspiring Cirque du Soleil: OVO

Closing date Friday, January 5, 2018

Cirque du Soleil returns to the iconic Royal Albert Hall from 7 January 2018 with never before seen in the uk show OVO!

Immerse yourself in a colourful carnival of crazy crickets amazing ants and flexible fleas teeming with joy, amazement and mind-blowing signature Cirque du Soleil acts. Rush headlong into an ecosystem teeming with life where insects work, eat, crawl, flutter play fight and love.

Crawling with fun, OVO is a non-stop riot of energy and movement featuring many of Cirque du Soleil's show-stopping performers including a stunning 14m high flying trapeze act – the biggest of its kind!

An unforgettable experience. Don't miss your chance to experience the world-famous Cirque du Soleil at such an iconic London venue.

Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP

Limited season 7 January – 4 March 2018.

### Win a pair of tickets!

We have teamed up with Cirque du Soleil to offer our readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to see this highly sought after production at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday 27th February 2018 at 7.30pm.

There are 3x pairs of tickets to be won. To be in with a chance of winning answer the following question

Q. Which animal kingdom does OVO explore? Reptiles, Mammals, Insects or Fish?

**Prize tickets are Price Level 2-3 and are valid for Tuesday 27th February 2018 7.30pm performance only, strictly subject to availability. All prize tickets will be supplied as e-tickets and are non-transferable. No cash alternative is available. Travel is not included**

To enter this competition just email your answer to: competitions@theoxfordpaper.co.uk

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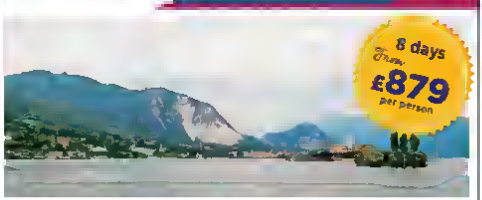


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The advertised price is correct as of 4 September 2017 and is based upon departures from Gatwick airport on 15 April 2018.

Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782, ATOL Protected 5081. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability. †We have included the current flight price within the above package price. Should the cost of flights change the package price may vary. The final price will be confirmed to you at time of booking.

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"I honestly believe that Colourfence is the best general purpose fencing product on the market today!"

# Get ready for Autumn

**Now's the perfect time to replace your garden fence once and for all. Anna Ryder Richardson - Designer and Television Presenter - takes a closer look at Colourfence, the revolutionary low-maintenance system**

It's been ten years since I regularly graced TV screens helping transform people's living spaces with MDF and stripped floorboards. Recently it's been more "celebrity mock out" than celebrity make-over as I took up the challenge of owning my own Wildlife Zoo in Derby. In this time I've learnt quite a lot about fences and having researched the various options for my own benefit I thought I would share my knowledge with a wider audience.

The latest design processes mean there is now a tremendous array of fencing products for you to choose from...constructed from a variety of materials. Each has its own attributes and ultimately it can often come down to a matter of personal preference. For me there was one magic system that stood out as providing the best balance between price and functionality which eradicates fencing problems for good. Or for at least 25 years. Colourfence. For quality, value, longevity, aesthetic design, this fencing system ticks all the boxes. Fencing made for the 21st century that will transform the look of your garden which is supplied and fitted by a company whose customer service is as good as the product.

In my view Colourfence is the Rolls Royce of fencing - just without the exclusive price tag. What's more, it's guaranteed to stay in place in up to 130mph winds and is virtually maintenance free.

To find out how the experts from Colourfence might help you, I suggest you call **01865 582 171** and speak to their team.

## Gardeners' Questions

**Q** **Wooden fence panels just don't seem to last - is there a storm resistant alternative?**

**A** The Colourfence system has been tested under cyclonic conditions to withstand storms with wind gusts up to 130mph. Unlike your wooden fence – once professionally installed – Colourfence really will stay up.

**Q** **No matter what I treat my wooden fence with - nothing seems to prevent it rotting or looking shabby for very long**

**A** Treating your fence is a thankless and expensive task. It's also a losing battle. Wood simply wants to rot. Colourfence offers a low-maintenance alternative where by an occasional wash down will keep it looking great for up to 25 years! GUARANTEED!†

**THIS WEEK'S JOB**

†Terms and conditions apply. Details available on request.

## Colourfence: The ultimate garden fence?

**For many Colourfence is perhaps the ultimate choice. For the last 15 years it's been widely used across the UK and has steadily gained a reputation for its quality. By using the highest specification Colorbond steel in the fence structure itself, complemented by the highest level of customer service from accredited Franchisees, Colourfence is now regarded by many as the premier fencing solution in the market. Immune to the rot and resistant to the weather that so quickly effects wooden fences, Colourfence has none of the drawbacks of wood - plenty of additional benefits and what's more it's better value!**

Call **01865 582 171** for more information

# Head into Autumn - with COLOURFENCE

## The only garden fence you will ever need!

**Every gardener knows that it pays to plan ahead.** If you are one of the thousands of people who watched helpless, as winter winds battered their garden, it will not be a surprise that garden fences are almost always the first casualty. Whether you have previously patched, painted or simply prayed to keep your fence going, there's no escaping the fact that timber fences will always fall victim to the weather. With Colourfence you can put your garden straight once and for all. Colourfence is scientifically tested and cyclonically rated to ensure when professionally installed, it can withstand wind gusts of up to 130mph. Once it's up – it stays up and is guaranteed to look good year after year. Safe, extra secure and hassle free – you will NEVER need to paint it, treat it or patch it. An occasional hose down will be all you need do to keep it in top condition for years to come. In fact the system is so durable that Colourfence will guarantee† their fencing to last at least 25 years. Available in a range of colours to suit any garden, with or without decorative trellis, the highly skilled installation team make short work of their dramatic transformations. Your sad old fence will be efficiently cleared and replaced, leaving you to get back to enjoying your rejuvenated garden. Pricing is just as straightforward and equally attractive. Starting costs are in line with inferior timber systems but with no annual treatments required, Colourfence saves you time and money each and every year. Their aim is your peace of mind. With a 25 year guarantee† Colourfence speaks for itself and promises a lifetime of hassle-free enjoyment.

**For more information and to arrange a FREE no obligation site visit simply call one of their helpful team on 01865 582 171**

**COLOURFENCE**

**the revolutionary low-maintenance system**

**01865 582 171**

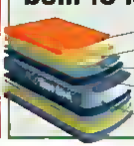
**colourfence.co.uk**

†Terms and conditions apply - full details available on request

### In detail:

- Virtually Maintenance-free
- Save time & money - no treating required.
- Guaranteed† not to rot, warp or peel for up to 25 years
- Costs in line with far inferior timber systems
- Variety of colours and sizes available
- Professionally installed by accredited Franchisees

### Colourfence is built to last!

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COLOUR FENCE

# puzzle drome — Your weekly puzzle challenge

## CROSS CODE

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 E | 2 | 3 Z | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 R | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

## MAGIC SQUARE

**SPILL SALE DETAILS**

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.

# Quiz Challenge

1. What is the name of the fictional Tube station which serves the residents in EastEnders?
2. The image of an eagle perched on a cactus while eating a snake is found on the national flag of which country?
3. In which South American country is Guayaquil the largest city by population, although not the capital?
4. Against which country did England fight The Hundred Years' war?
5. Which city in northern England is the birthplace of boxer Nicola Adams and novelist Barbara Taylor Bradford?
6. Ares is the Greek God of what?
7. Which R is a French word used in English for a person who tells anecdotes in a skilful and amusing way?
8. "A noble spirit embiggens the smallest man" is the motto of which fictional town in TV animation?
9. Monty Don presents TV's Gardeners' World from his own garden Longmeadow, in which English county on the Welsh border?
10. "Be afraid. Be very afraid" was a catchphrase on the poster for which 1986 film?

## NONAGRAM

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| S | U | N |
| I | C | E |
| S | O | L |

How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

**Guidelines:**
25 Good, 30 Very Good, 35 *Excellent*.

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

## WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.

## FIVE ALIVE

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| KN | NA | UM | ER | SL |
| NI | | OP | | UY |
| OE | XC | TE | AO | LN |
| TC | | NT | | GP |
| ES | IP | DO | CE | HS |

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 Deficiency during brief season in America (9)
8 Clever to snub enemy leader (4)
9 So far equal to silver American vegetable (9)
11 One who gets the measure of his customers (6)
12 Needle used for writing? (6)
13 Fighting an opponent of it (6)
16 Does one make a violent effort with sieve? (8)
20 Uninteresting journey first to come to an end (3,3)
21 Formidable person has most of the sauce (6)
23 Killing strangely mused only half a murmur first (9)
24 Cycle over a hill (4)
25 Doctor the sex offender (9)

**DOWN**

2 Showing indecision in arranging the satin (8)
3 Truly about a friend (6)
4 Go round after a puncture in a panic (4 4)
5 Left out a beer (4)
6 Central parts in clue distorted (6)
7 Search thoroughly for the little creature (6)
10 Airs another eastern garment (4)
14 One of the passageways of power (8)
15 Peevish cat who always looks gloomy (8)
16 Took one's seat with anger of the irony perhaps (6)
17 It is not often that this is found (6)
18 The mosque's first prayer? (4)
19 Catch medical specialist on strike (5)
22 Girl booked and badly hurt (4)

## QUICK CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 Suite of rooms (9)
9 Suave, refined (6)
10 Snatch (4)
11 Fourth dimension (4)
12 Pub worker (6)
13 Stapler (anag.) (7)
16 Hire (4)
17 Small loaf (4)
18 Extra run at cricket (3)
20 Farm animal (3)
21 Scottish loch (4)
23 Exactly alike (4)
25 Slipped by (7)
26 Infected with bacteria (6)
29 Small pool (4)
30 Precipitation (4)
31 Procure (6)
32 Trick, illusion (9)

**DOWN**

2 Conditional release (6)
3 Healthy (6)
4 Substance (6)
5 Without feeling (4)
6 Molasses (7)
7 Cultivate the land (4)
8 Went in again (2-7)
13 Exactness (9)
14 Afresh (4)
15 Awaken (5)
16 Prejudice (4)
19 Without taste (7)
22 Toboggan (6)
23 Soul (6)
24 Breed of sheep (6)
27 Trail (4)
28 Ice cream holder (4)

## SUDOKU

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and so must each 3 x 3 box.

**Easy**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | | 6 | 3 | | | 2 | |
| | 8 | 6 | | | | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| | | 3 | 2 | | | | | 7 |
| | | | | | 4 | | | |
| | | | | 9 | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| | | 2 | | | 3 | | 4 | |
| | | | | 4 | | 7 | 8 | 1 |
| 4 | 7 | | 9 | | | | 3 | |
| | 5 | 8 | 1 | | 7 | | 6 | 9 |

**Hard**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 9 | 5 | 7 | |
| | | | | 8 | | 9 | | |
| | | 3 | | | 4 | | 1 | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | |
| | | 6 | | | | | 4 | |
| 4 | | 2 | 5 | | 8 | 3 | | |
| 6 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 2 | | | 3 | | | 6 | 9 | |
| 9 | | | | | 2 | | | |

## EQUALISER

6 10
8 ○ 3 ○ 1
3 3
7 ○ 3 ○ 2
2 6

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down the same.

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

All puzzles on this page are supplied by Sirius Media Services. To try some of our puzzles interactively online go to www.puzzledrome.com

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## SOLUTIONS

**QUIZ CHALLENGE:** 1 Walford East; 2 Mexico; 3 Ecuador; 4 France; 5 Leeds; 6 War; 7 Raconteur; 8 Springfield (The Simpsons); 9 Herefordshire; 10 The Fly

**CROSS CODE**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 E | 2 U | 3 Z | 4 O | 5 S | 6 L | 7 Y | 8 T | 9 F | 10 A | 11 V | 12 I | 13 Q |
| 14 R | 15 P | 16 W | 17 X | 18 J | 19 D | 20 C | 21 N | 22 K | 23 H | 24 G | 25 M | 26 B |

**EASY SUDOKU**

[illegible]

**HARD SUDOKU**

[illegible]

**MAGIC SQUARE:** dial; idle; alps; lest.

**WORD PYRAMID:** All over the place.

**EQUALISER:** Clockwise from top left: subtract; multiply; divide; add. Total: 5.

**CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:**
**Across** – 1 Shortfall; 8 Cute; 9 Asparagus; 11 Tailor; 12 Stylus; 13 Paddle; 16 Strainer; 20 Run dry; 21 Tartar; 23 Murderous; 24 Rota; 25 Therapist.
**Down** – 2 Hesitant; 3 Really; 4 Flat spin; 5 Lout; 6 Nuclei; 7 Ferret; 10 Sari; 14 Corridor; 15 Sourpuss; 16 Sateen; 17 Rarity; 18 Imam; 19 Cramp; 22 Ruth.

**QUICK CROSSWORD:**
**Across** – 1 Apartment; 9 Urbane; 10 Grab; 11 Time; 12 Barman; 13 Plaster; 16 Rent; 17 Roll; 18 Bye; 20 Cow; 21 Ness; 23 Same; 25 Elapsed; 26 Septic; 29 Pond; 30 Rain; 31 Obtain; 32 Deception.
**Down** – 2 Parole; 3 Robust; 4 Matter; 5 Numb; 6 Treacle; 7 Farm; 8 Re-entered; 13 Precision; 14 Anew; 15 Rouse; 16 Bias; 19 Insipid; 22 Sledge; 23 Spirit; 24 Merino; 27 Path; 28 Cone.

**FIVE ALIVE:**
(1) **Across** – Knurl; Ocean; Sides. **Down** – Knots; Upend; Lunge.
(2) **Across** – Nemes; Exist; Epoch. **Down** – Nixes; Motto; Sylph.

**NONAGRAM:** [illegible] SECLUSION; [illegible]

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The Happy Puzzle Company would like to permit carefully chosen third party companies to chosen you with special offers from here to here. If you don't wish to receive this information, please tick here ☐

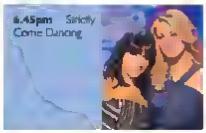
* Our 0844 numbers have 7p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

**Offer ends 11.59pm 30th April 2018!**

# Saturday December 9th

## TOP TV

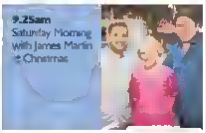
### BBC 1


6.45pm Strictly Come Dancing

### BBC 2

4.00pm Mastermind

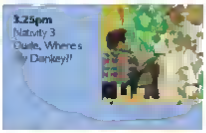
### ITV


9.25am Saturday Morning with James Martin at Christmas

### Channel 4

7.00pm Guy Martin's WWI Tank

### Channel 5


3.25pm Nativity 3 Dude, Where's My Donkey?!

## MORNING

**BBC 1**
- 10.00am Saturday Kitchen Live
- 11.30am Nigella: At My Table

**BBC 2**
- 8.00am Deadly 60
- 8.30am Show Me What You're Made of: UK
- 9.00am Saturday Mash-Up!
- 11.00am Penguins on a Plane: Great Animal Moves

**ITV**
- 8.30am Thunderbirds are Go
- 9.00am Wishlist: Normal Sad
- 9.35am Saturday Morning with James Martin at Christmas
- 11.20am Gino's Italian Coastal Escape
- 11.45am The Hungry Sailors

**Channel 4**
- 7.00am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 7.50am Frasier
- 8.45am The Big Bang Theory
- 9.40am The Simpsons
- 11.10am 12 Dates of Christmas

**Channel 5**
- 7.00am Milkshake!
- 10.00am Olly the Little White Van
- 10.10am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 10.45am The Gadget Show
- 11.40am Cruising with Jane McDonald
- 11.50am A Perfect Christmas List

## AFTERNOON

**BBC 1**
- 12.00pm Football Focus
- 1.05pm BBC News
- 1.15pm Snooker
- 4.35pm Final Score
- 5.15pm Len Goodman's Partners in Rhyme
- 5.45pm BBC News
- 5.55pm Regional News and Weather

**BBC 2**
- 12.00pm Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well
- 12.00pm Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes
- 1.00pm Demolition
- 2.00pm Operation Snow Tiger
- 3.00pm Escape to the Continent
- 4.00pm Mastermind
- 4.30pm Snooker
- 5.30pm John Noakes: TV Hero

**ITV**
- 12.45pm Thunderbirds are Go
- 1.10pm ITV News
- 1.20pm The X Factor
- 3.00pm Endeavour
- 5.00pm The Chase

**Channel 4**
- 12.55pm Come Dine with Me
- 3.30pm A Place in the Sun
- 4.30pm Best Laid Plans
- 5.30pm Grand Designs

**Channel 5**
- 1.00pm A Nutcracker Christmas
- 3.20pm Nativity 3 Dude, Where's My Donkey?!
- 4.20pm 5 News
- 4.25pm Nativity 3 Dude, Where's My Donkey?!
- 5.35pm The Family Man

## EVENING

**BBC 1**
- 6.00pm Pointless
- 6.45pm Strictly Come Dancing
- 8.20pm Michael Mcintyre's Big Show
- 9.20pm Casualty
- 10.15pm BBC News
- 10.30pm Match of the Day
- 11.55pm The NFL Show
- 12.25am Someone to Watch Over Me
- 2.05am Weather for the Week Ahead
- 2.10am BBC News
- 6.00am Breakfast

**BBC 2**
- 6.10pm BP Confidential
- 7.00pm Snooker
- 10.00pm QI XL
- 10.45pm Insert Name Here
- 11.15pm The Cider House Rules
- 1.10am Borrowed Time
- 2.40am This is BBC Two
- 6.00am Coast

**ITV**
- 6.00pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs
- 6.25pm ITV News London
- 6.35pm ITV News
- 6.50pm You've Been Framed!
- 7.15pm Ninja Warrior UK
- 8.20pm I'm a Celebrity: Get Me Out of Here!
- 9.50pm Through the Keyhole
- 10.50pm ITV News
- 11.05pm Shaun of the Dead
- 12.50am Jackpot247
- 3.00am The Hungry Sailors
- 3.00am ITV Nightscreen

**Channel 4**
- 6.30pm Channel 4 News
- 7.00pm Guy Martin's WWI Tank
- 9.00pm X-Men: Days of Future Past
- 11.35pm The Drop
- 1.35am The Last Leg
- 2.30am Hollyoaks Omnibus
- 4.40am Location, Location, Location
- 5.35am Kirstie's Handmade Christmas
- 5.55am 3rd Rock from the Sun

**Channel 5**
- 6.35pm 5 News
- 6.40pm The Family Man
- 7.55pm 5 News Weekend
- 8.00pm Santa Makes You Laugh Out Loud
- 9.00pm Football on 5
- 10.25pm NCIS: New Orleans
- 12.15am Super Casino
- 3.10am The Craigslist Killer
- 4.40am Cruising with Jane McDonald
- 5.00am House Doctor
- 5.20am Wildlife SOS
- 5.45am Chinese Food in Minutes
- 6.00am Little Princess

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- Father Christmas at 6.00pm
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- Pedal tractor test track

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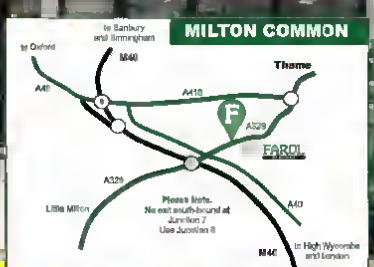


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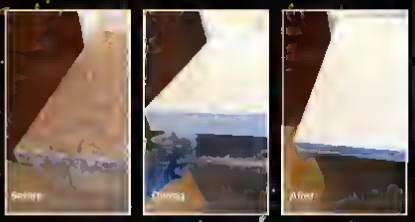


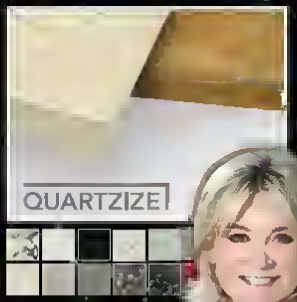


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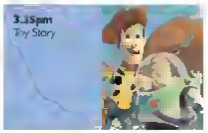
# Sunday December 10th

TOP TV

## BBC 1




MORNING

7.30am Match of the Day
9.00am The Andrew Marr Show
10.00am Fern Britton Meets..
11.00am Sunday Politics

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News
1.10pm Escape to the Country
1.50pm Mary Berry's Country House Secrets
2.50pm Lifeline
3.00pm Songs of Praise
3.30pm Toy Story
4.50pm Blue Planet II
5.50pm BBC News

EVENING

6.05pm Regional News and Weather
6.15pm Countryfile
7.15pm Strictly Come Dancing
8.00pm Blue Planet II
9.00pm Attenborough and the Giant Elephant
10.00pm BBC News
10.20pm Regional News and Weather
10.30pm Match of the Day 2
11.35pm The Woman's Football Show
12.10am Fenny Chieng: International Student
12.40am Weather for the Week Ahead
13.45am BBC News

## BBC 2

MORNING

7.35am Monty Don's Secret History of the British Garden
8.35am Countryfile
9.30am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
11.00am Food and Drink
11.30am My Life on a Plate

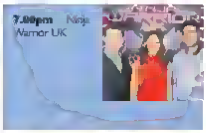
AFTERNOON

12.15pm MOTD2 Extra
1.00pm Snooker
5.15pm Sky Sunday

EVENING

6.15pm Fling It!
7.00pm Snooker
11.00pm Employable Me
12.00am Athletics
1.05am Headhunters
2.40am Question Time
3.40am Holby City
4.40am This is BBC Two
6.00am An Island Parish: Falklands
6.30am Island Medics

## ITV




MORNING

9.25am ITV News
9.30am Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury
9.55am The Martin Lewis Money Show
10.25am Save Money: Good Food
11.00am Tipping Point

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Jeopardy!
2.05pm ITV News
2.15pm You've Been Framed!
2.45pm Midsomer Murders
4.40pm The Chase
5.35pm How to Spend it Well at Christmas with Phillip Schofield

EVENING

6.25pm ITV News London
6.45pm ITV News
7.00pm Ninja Warrior UK
8.00pm The Chase Celebrity Special
9.00pm I'm a Celebrity: Get Me Out of Here!
10.20pm ITV News
10.50pm Diamond Geezers and Gold Dealers
11.50pm The Detectives
12.40am Jackpot247
3.00am Motorsport UK
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show

## Channel 4

MORNING

7.10am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
9.30am Sunday Brunch

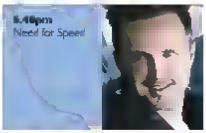
AFTERNOON

12.30pm Paul Hollywood
1.00pm Evolution
3.00pm The Sorcerer's Apprentice
5.10pm The Snowman
5.45pm The Snowman and the Snowdog

EVENING

6.10pm Channel 4 News
6.30pm Britain's Wildest Weather 2017
8.00pm Coastal Railways with Julie Walters
9.00pm The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
11.30pm Unbroken
1.55am Departure
3.45am Gillette World Sport
4.15am KOTV Rowing Weekly
4.40am Grand Designs
5.35am Countdown
6.20am 3rd Rock from the Sun

## Channel 5




MORNING

7.00am Milkshake!
10.05am Football on 5
11.30am The Secret Life of Mrs Claus

AFTERNOON

1.10pm Journey Back to Christmas
2.55pm Trolls Holiday Special
3.25pm 5 News
3.30pm Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End
4.30pm 5 News
4.35pm Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End

EVENING

6.45pm Need for Speed
9.00pm Chappie
10.00pm 5 News
10.08pm Chappie
11.20pm Resident Evil: Afterlife
1.05am Super Cinema
3.10am Along Came Polly
4.40am Chinese Food in Minutes
4.55am House Doctor
5.20am Wildlife SOS
5.45am Chinese Food in Minutes
6.00am Pullin Rock
6.10am Poppy Cat
6.20am Simm


Reader travel

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**Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, March-December 2017**

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# Monday Decemeber 11

## BBC 1

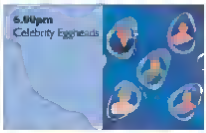
**TOP TV**

**MORNING**
9.15am Island Medics
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Street Auction
11.45am Fake Britain

**AFTERNOON**
12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm Armchair Detectives
3.00pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm The Hairy Bikers Home for Christmas
4.30pm Money for Nothing
5.15pm Pointless

**EVENING**
6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm Panorama
8.00pm EastEnders
8.35pm Would I Lie to You?
9.00pm The Real Marigold on Tour
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.35pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You
11.35pm Michael Mcintyre's Big Show
12.30am The Graham Norton Show
1.20am Weather for the Week Ahead

## BBC 2




7.15am The Hairy Bikers Home for Christmas
8.00am Mary Berry's Country House Secrets
9.00am Victoria Derbyshire
11.00am BBC Newsroom Live

12.00pm The Daily Politics
1.00pm Athletics
2.05pm Terry and Malcolm's Great Food Trip
2.35pm Home Away From Home
3.20pm 32 Farnham Street
4.05pm The Fifteen Million Pound Railway
5.05pm The Blue Planet

6.00pm Celebrity Eggheads
6.30pm Strictly – It Takes Two
7.00pm Celebrity Antiques Road Trip
8.00pm Nigella's Christmas Table
9.00pm Employable Me
10.00pm Insert Name Here
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Blitz
12.15am Blitz
1.15am Countryfile
2.10am Blue Planet II
3.10am Healthy City
4.10am This is BBC Two
6.00am Flog it! Trade Secrets

## ITV

8.30am Lorraine
9.35am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm Judge Rinder
3.00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Bancroft
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.00pm White Right: Meeting the Enemy – Exposure
11.50pm Killer Women with Piers Morgan
12.40am Jackpot247
3.00am The Jeremy Kyle Show

## Channel 4

7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.00am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am James's Ultimate Christmas

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Kirstie's Handmade Christmas
12.25pm The Dog Who Saved Christmas
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm Lost and Found
4.00pm A Place in the Sun
5.00pm Kirstie's Handmade Christmas

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm Paul Hollywood
8.30pm Supershoppers
9.00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?
10.00pm First Dates
11.05pm Don't Tell the Bride
12.05am One Born Every Minute
1.05am The Rewrite
2.55am Can We Live with Robots?
3.50am Phil Spencer: Secret Agent
4.45am Kirstie's Vintage Gems
5.05am Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free

## Channel 5

7.00am Milkshake!
9.05am Minty
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.45am 5 News Lunchtime
11.55am The Christmas Gift

1.30pm Rooftop Christmas Tree
3.15pm A Nose at Christmas
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.35pm The Yorkshire Vet: Winter on the Moors

6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Weather Terror
8.00pm Police Interceptors
9.00pm Concorde
11.00pm The KKK: Behind the Mask
12.00am Traffic Cops at Christmas
1.00am Super Casino
3.10am GPs: Behind Closed Doors
4.00am My Mum's Hotter Than Me!
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am The Great Artists
5.35am Wildlife SOS
6.00am Pullin Rock
6.10am Poppy Cat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# Welcome to Bicester Caravan and Leisure

Established over thirteen years ago we have been going from strength to strength retailing touring vans built by the UK's finest manufacturers.

With a forecourt offering a selection of over 100 new season and pre-owned caravans we have something for everyone.

20% off all awnings and furniture purchased during our Blue Cross Sale.

Never has there been a better time to enjoy ownership of a touring van, however if you're considering a new season 2018 don't hang around too long as some layouts are already seeing limited availability.

With new 5 year PCP deals and 10 year traditional Hire Purchase plans, affordability has never been so flexible.

Our "Blue Cross Sale" has started NOW with a genuine £1000 saving across ALL caravans that we have displayed on the forecourt, new season and pre-owned.

All pre-owned touring vans sold come with a comprehensive warranty and pre delivery inspection.

To compliment the customer experience we have just opened a further two internal servicing bays, with NCC and AWS approval for warranty, body shop and servicing.

We have enhanced our storage area providing somewhere to store any caravan brought from us, this makes owning a caravan even more convinent for ease of use servicing etc and at very reasonable prices.

10% off pre-winter checks and caravan valeting during our Blue Cross Sale.

The leisure, parts and accessory sbop in undergoing an expansion, offering some great season sales on awnings and furniture. Come and view the latest air awnings by Kampa, Vango and Isabella.

Further enhancements with new customer toilets, sales offices and the re-launch of the Peacock Café. The peacock Café is open seven days a week offering outstanding homemade cakes, cream teas and a tasty menu, well worth a visit.

10% off all services and booked and completed during our Blue Cross Sale.

## Why Do People Caravan?

People start to caravan for lots of different reasons, some people hear from friends who caravan about the variety of types of holidays that they enjoy, beach holidays (home and abroad), forest holidays, attending events balloon festivals, dog shows, country shows, classic car events, xmas markets. People will even venture off to the Cairngorms' up to (and beyond) their boots in snow!

And of course people will use their caravan as a support vehicle (accommodation, refuelling and rest) for activities like running marathons, triathlons, hill walking, skiing, windsurfing even hovercraft racing. Some Caravaners are in the National Trust enjoying our heritage, our great houses and parks, the picturesque and even the simple things like a traditional cream tea.

The great thing is you can get out there to do the things you enjoy.

With a caravan it is easier to enjoy the fresh air and the beauty of the great outdoors, you will have a better appetite with your favourite foods and drinks tasting even better, not to mention the new ones you will try, whether cooking yourself which many people love to or finding fabulous eateries out and about.

With our support caravaning can be easier than you might realise. Visit us and go inside some of the caravans on display. You will be blown away.

It's about the freedom

The great thing is you can live your dream in comfort, all year round, enjoying life, the seasons and all that the outdoors offers and at your own pace

For help and advice from friendly helpful staff

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New Citroen C3 Aircross Compact SUV Flair S&S PureTech 110

# Nippy, stylish and compact – a little corker

By **Tony Yates**

I'M going to start by saying I like the design of the C3 Aircross. And the reason for me coming to this easy conclusion is simple – I personally like a decent compact SUV that can do all of the things a family man like me wants. Such as the school run, those weekly trips to the shops or the odd weekend away. I also like a vehicle that's able to go where others would normally fail. Of course the beefy ride height and flared arches can be a little off-putting for some – but believe me, this really is a little corker.

*Worth taking a look at with some interesting little additions*

## Power & efficiency

The C3 I had on test was powered by a 3 cylinder 1199cc – 5 speed turbocharged petrol engine that has 110HP and a very respectable top speed of 115mph, plus a 0-62 time of 11.3 seconds – which in my book is not bad for a 3 cylinder. Fuel consumption is also very good with a combined figure of 56.5 mpg.

## On the road

It's a little soft, but into the corners it feels very well balanced. A big plus for the C3 is that it has a decent amount of torque – in fact 205Nm of it – which allows it to pull very well from pretty much any gear – which surprisingly, made the C3 a joy to drive no matter what the road conditions were doing. The brakes also felt good and firm. As for the suspension, it actually absorbs England's bumpy roads really well – but as I said, the ride was a little soft.

This is where it starts to get interesting. My test car was fitted with 'Grip Control Technology' something I knew little about, until now. Basically what it does is offer an enhanced traction ability on all types of terrain – be that sand, snow, or slippery road conditions. So how does it work? Well, I'm glad you asked that. The system works with the vehicle's ESP system to maintain the best possible traction from both front wheels. It does this with the help of five selectable operating modes which can be chosen by the driver from a dedicated control button mounted on the centre console.

## Design & technology

On the inside the interior is not bad – but I don't like how Citroen have mixed up the interior colours. Although, on a positive note – it does have easy to read dials and all the controls are in the right place and well set out. There is however a small problem. Some of the interior plastics feel a little 'scratchy' and I would have liked a smoother feel to them. I know you have to spend less to keep the price down for the consumer – but sometimes it's worth going that little bit further if it means you get something that feels a little bit more upmarket.

Standard equipment is good such as, ABS/EBD/EBA, hill start assist, driver & front passenger lateral & curtain airbags, iPod/MP3 connection, automatic air conditioning, six speakers, steering wheel mounted audio control and split/folding rear bench seat.

You also get a brilliant Media Sound System which includes satellite navigation, a seven-inch colour touch-screen display, DAB radio tuner and Bluetooth audio with USB connectivity.

## To sum up

I'm going to give the C3 Aircross four stars in this test, not only because I like its looks, but also because I believe it's worth taking a look at if you are in the market for a compact SUV.

Price £18,000 (from) OTR. MiRP (Cost of test car inc extras, £20,400)

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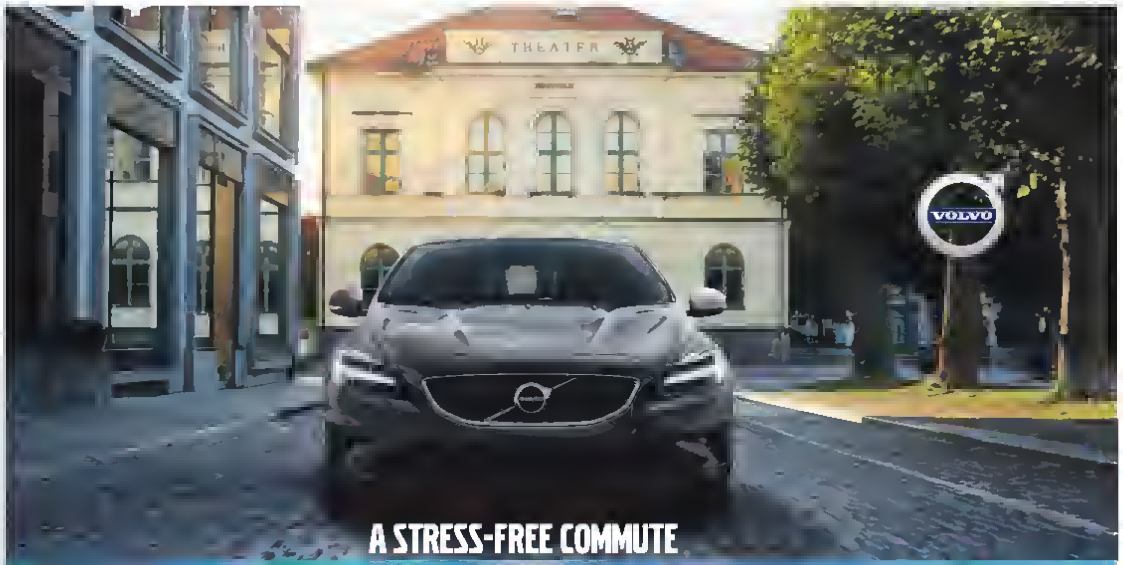


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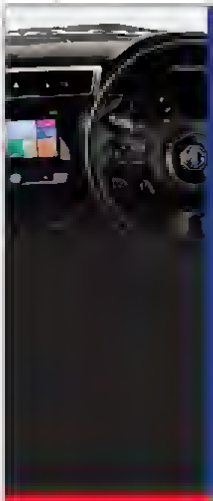

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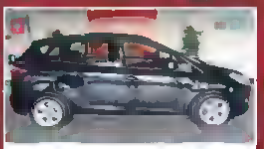

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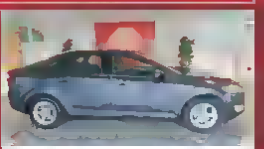

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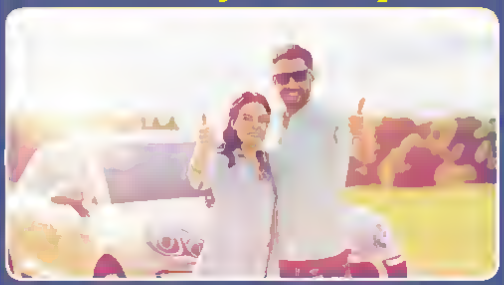

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| 2011 11 | AUDI TT 2.0 TFSI BLACK EDITION QUATTRO, Silver 3 DR RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 4wd, 82000 Miles | £11,995 |
| 2012-12 | AUDI A3 S LINE TDI I-LINE BIG AUTO Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Leather Sat Nav 79500 Miles, | £10,995 |
| 2012-62 | FORD FIGA 1.2 TDCI ZETEC, Silver 5 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 37673 Miles | WAS £10,995 NOW £10,995 |
| 2013-63 | NISSAN PULSAR 1.5 DCI N TEC Black, 5 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 18350 Miles | £9,995 |
| 2014-14 | MINI ONE 1.5 II White, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 9500 Miles | WAS £10,495 NOW £9,995 |
| 2008-09 | HONDA CR V 2.2 CTDI EX, Grey, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather Seats, 49100 Miles | £9,995 |
| 2011 11 | AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI SPORT, White, 3 Dr RCL, PAS, Ew Ac, Alloys, 22800 Miles, | £9,295 |
| 2014-14 | FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECOBOOST ZETEC R, Silver, 3 Dr, PAS, AC, Alloys, 22500 Miles, | £8,995 |
| 2011 11 | AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI SPORT, White, 3 Dr RCL, pAS, EW AC, Alloys, 29600 Miles, | £8,295 |
| 5015-65 | SEAT IBIZA 1.2 I-TECH FR, White, 5 Dr RCL, PAS EW AC, Alloys, 25900 Miles | £8,995 |
| 2013-15 | FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X ESTATE, Green, 5 D RCL, PAS, EW AC Alloys, 51450 Miles | £8,995 |
| 2013-63 | FORD FIESTA 1.5 ZETEC AUTO, BLUE, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC Alloys, 30900 Miles | £8,695 |
| 5013-63 | AUDI A1 1.5 TFSI SPORT, Black 5 D RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 54833 Miles, | £8,695 |
| 2013-15 | NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI ACENTA, Silver 5 Dr RCL PAS, Ac, Alloys, 31400 Miles, | £8,595 |
| 2013-63 | VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 MATCH EDITION BSG Black, 5 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 35300 Miles, | £8,495 |
| 2013-62 | NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI TEKNA, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather Seats, 30635 Miles, | £8,295 |
| 2013-15 | HONDA CIVIC 1.8 I-V, Black, 5 Dr RCL, PAs, Ew, Ac, Alloys, 42700 Miles | £8,095 |
| 5012-62 | FORD MEGA 1.8 TDCI BOOST ZETEC, Black, 5 Dr PAS, AC, A loys, 15400 Miles, | £7,995 |
| 2013-63 | FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys 13350 Miles | WAS £7,995 NOW £7,995 |
| 2014-64 | RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 14300 Miles | £7,695 |
| 2014-64 | FIAT 500 1.2 P, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 9740 Miles | £7,995 |
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| 2014-14 | RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 22317 Miles | £7,295 |
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| 2013-63 | NISSAN NOTE 1.5 DCI, ACENTA, PREMIUM, White, 5 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav 28800 Miles | £6,995 |
| 2013-63 | NISSAN NOTE 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, pAs, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav 27400 Miles | £6,995 |
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| 2014-63 | SUZUKI SX4 S-CROSS 1.6 SZ-T, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 34450 Miles | £6,295 |
| 2013-15 | MAZDA2 1.3 VENTURE EDITION, White, 5 Dr, PAS, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 34640 Miles | £6,295 |
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| 2014-64 | PEUGEOT 108 ACTIVE 1.0, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Bluetooth, 28200 Miles | WAS £6,495 NOW £5,995 |
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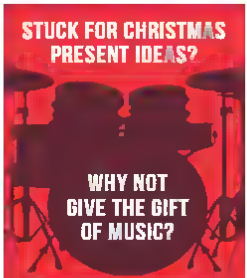

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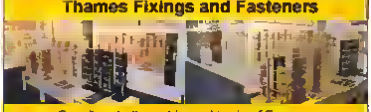

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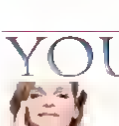
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# Can golfers do the double at awards?

## Nominations for county sports awards

By George Welch

EDDIE Pepperell s blustering form on the European Tour has earned the Abingdon golfer a nomination for the 2017 Oxfordshire Sports Awards

The 26-year-old recorded seven top ten finishes in eight events in September and October to finish 42nd in the Race to Dubai and win himself a slot on the sportsman of the year shortlist for the first time.

But the Frilford Heath member faces strong competition from footballer Luke Southwood, an England Under-20 and Reading goalkeeper who won the World Cup

Also in the running is rugby league star Josh Griffin, who helped Hull FC beat Wigan Warriors in the Challenge Cup final at Wembley

Another golfer is up for the sportswoman of the year, as Cara Gainer competes with Gemma Bridge (athletics) and Kirsty Miller (Taekwondo) for the top female honour

Gainer won the English Women s Amateur Matchplay Championship and the Oxfordshire County Championship.

In her way stands national race walking champion Bridge and Taekwondo star Miller, who captained England in the European Championships winning four medals, before claiming individual silver in the World Championships in North Korea.

The awards provide the opportunity to showcase the best that Oxfordshire has had to offer in sport and physical activity over the previous year

The full list of nominations can be seen right.

The winners will be announced at an awards night at Oxford s Kassam Stadium on Friday January 19.

Tickets priced at £42.95 for adults and £29.95 for juniors, are now on sale at oxspa.co.uk/osa.

### 2017 OXFORDSHIRE SPORTS AWARDS CONTENDERS

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Josh Griffin (rugby league)
Eddie Pepperell (golf)
Luke Southwood (football)

**SPORTSWOMAN OF YEAR**
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Cara Gainer (golf)
Kirsty Miller (Taekwondo)

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Siobhan Tierney (judo)
Katie Wales (football)

**DISABILITY AWARD**
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Dreaming Spires Ten Pin Bowling
Molly Ripley (football)

**JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF YEAR**
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William Jelfrey (cycle speedway)
Ethan Rose (badminton)

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Rowena Hearn (hockey)
Elizabeth Ireland (Nordic skiing)

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# Promising start to E season for Virgin driver

## Formula E

ALEX Lynn made a point-scoring start to his Formula E career by collecting six points in the first two races at the Hong Kong E-Prix.

The Oxford based racer, recruited by DS Virgin Racing as a full-time driver in the close season finished race one on Saturday in eighth place before slipping a position in the following day's race.

It was a dramatic beginning to his first full season in the all-electric classification, with the 24-year-old nearly crashing in race one and using too much power in race two to fall five places late on.

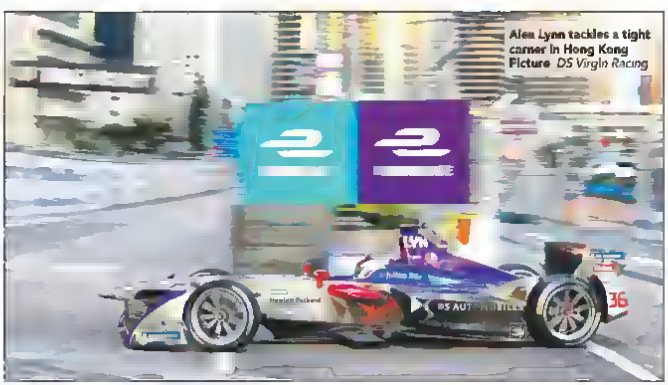
Lynn, who made his debut as a reserve driver last season in New York, said. "It s been a very encouraging weekend for DS Virgin Racing and myself. I came away with points in both races although it could have been so much more.

"We've come away in a strong position and a lot of respect has to go to the team for their hard work behind the scenes"

It nearly went wrong for Lynn on the first lap of the first race as he narrowly avoided a pile-up at the chicane and managed to squeeze through an incredibly narrow gap

He then over cooked it in the second race as he mismanaged his power sacrificing fifth place for 10th.

However winner Daniel Abt was excluded for a technical infringement so Lynn was lifted into ninth.



Alex Lynn tackles a tight corner in Hong Kong Picture DS Virgin Racing

Team mate Sam Bird finished first and fifth as Virgin shot up to second after the first two races.

The next race is in Marrakesh, Morocco on January 13

# Daytona race plan for Stroll

WILLIAMS driver Lance Stroll will line up in January s Daytona 24-hour race in a car backed by Hong Kong martial arts film star Jackie Chan.

The teenager—no longer technically a rookie at Grove-based Williams – said he is taking part largely for fun.

He will share the wheel in the Chan team's Oreca 07 car with friends Swede Felix Rosenqvist, Dutch driver Robin Frijns and Spain's Daniel Juncadella.

Stroll said "We are going to Daytona to enjoy, compete and of course try and win I always want to be the best and most competitive I can be I ll be out there with some of my buddies in the same car and it is going to be a pleasure to do this race again as I just love to race.

"We are the four young guns so it will be great fun I'm sure because we go way back together"

The Canadian finished 12th in the drivers' championship in his first Formula 1 season

The race will take place over the weekend of January 27 and 28 and the traditional Roar Before the 24 test in Florida will be held over January 5 to 7

# Stars continue to outshine rivals

## Ice hockey

FOUR different players found the back of the net as Oxford City Stars extended their imperious winning run to 10 matches with a 4-0 win at Chelmsford Chieftains

Matt Lawday, Josh Oliver Andy Cox and Dominic Hopkins all struck on Sunday as the runaway leaders consolidated their position at the halfway point of the NIHL South 2 (Wilkinson) division.

For the first 20 minutes of action, the Oxford travelling support had a poor view due to the puck spending a lot of time in the offensive zone at the other and of the rink.

The Stars made their dominance count on eight minutes when Lawday with help from Josh Florey and Joe Edwards hit the puck beyond Chelmsford netminder Sonny Phillips.

The Chieftains were able to keep the puck in Oxford s defensive zone more in the second period than in the first. That didn t stop the in form Oxford side who netted twice in little over 60 second-period seconds

Oliver and Cox got the goals for a comfortable three-goal cushion while, at the other end, Milan Ronai made multiple solid saves to keep the Chelmsford goal tally at zero.

Kenny Redmond's side refused to get complacent and with little under nine minutes remaining of the game, Hopkins netted the fourth and final Stars goal of the evening with a well placed banger from the blue line

Stars have a week off before welcoming winless Lee Valley Lions (14th) to Oxpens Road on December 17

Dominic Hopkins found the target in a 4-0 away win at Chelmsford Chieftains

Sport

# Battle of the Blues at Twickenham

By George Welch

## Varsity rugby

PUMPED up and raring to go Oxford University is ready to do battle with arch rivals Cambridge in today's annual Varsity rugby matches

The teams will fight for glory at Twickenham with the 31st women's match kicking off at 11.30am and the men's 136th contest at 3pm.

Squads were announced last month and Oxford men's skipper Conor Kearns is hoping to lead his side back to winning ways after a record run of six successive victories before last year's 23-10 defeat.

The Irishman, one of six former Blues in the starting XV, has been able to include Canadian international Dan Moor at centre.

Kearns has however resisted the temptation to partner Moor with current Newcastle Falcons centre Dan Waldouck.

Instead, he has given the former Heineken Cup winner with Wasps and England Saxons player a place on the replacements bench after only playing once in the build-up to the big game due to injury

Oxford women's skipper Sophie Behan is hoping to sign-off her Varsity career with another win

Behan was one of many Dark Blue heroines last year when Oxford hit back from the humiliation of a 52-0 defeat on their Twickenham debut 12 months earlier to stun Cambridge with a 3 0 victory thanks to a single penalty from outside half Catherine Wilcock.

"To win last year was incredible, but it was made all the better by the fact that a year earlier we had stood on the same pitch at the end of the game having conceded eight tries and been beaten 52-0," said Behan, who will lead the side from No 9

Their defensive performance that day almost had their coach the 2014

Conor Kearns & Charlie Amesbury with The Rhina Trophy and Sophie Behan & Lara Gibson with The Rhina Trophy Pictures: *Matthew Impey/Wired Photos*

England World Cup winning coach Gary Street in tears, but this time round he is hoping to show the other side of his side's game

"The effort that the players put in last year was unbelievable and I was so pleased for them it really was an extraordinary defensive effort and I have to admit I did get a bit emotional," said Street.

"But I hope people can see more of what we can do in attack this year"

The men's fixture will be shown on BBC 2

# Champions whipped by Wheatley in shield defeat

## Rugby Union

REIGNING champions Oxford University Whippets were knocked out of the Oxfordshire Shield with a 19-5 defeat at Wheatley

Wheatley started the first round tie strongly as they had in the league the week before, and took the lead through an early Aaron Laman penalty kick.

James Butler was then pushed over from a scrum, with Laman converting, as Wheatley made it 10-0.

The hosts continued to apply the pressure in the wet conditions and another Laman penalty extended the lead to 13 points.

The ferocity of the game left several players from both sides in need of treatment before the Whippets replied before the break when Russell Reid crossed for an unconverted try

However there was still time for a third Laman penalty kick to clear the posts for a 16-5 half time lead.

The fly half kicked the only points of the second half as Wheatley secured their place in the next round with the 19-5 win.

Elsewhere, there were wins for Littlemore Alchester and Blue Boar.

Littlemore reached the semi finals with a 33-12 home win against Abingdon, while a late penalty saw Alchester beat Harwell 13-10

Blue Boar were handed a walkover by Faringdon.

The semi finals will take place on the weekend of January 6/7

Wheatley and Oxford University Whippets contest a scrum during their Oxfordshire Shield tie on Saturday Picture: *Simon Chadbans*

# Abingdon score nine in two to extend impressive run

## Hellenic round-up

HIGH scoring Abingdon United extended their unbeaten run to five games with two impressive victories at the weekend.

United ran riot over Royal Wootton Bassett at the Northcourt in a 6-1 victory on Saturday before winning 3-0 at Highmoor this on Monday

Of the nine goals Abingdon had eight different goalscorers.

Callum Harvey (7 minutes), John Dennis (32) and Tom Butler (44) scored half the goals in the first half against Bassett. Joe Green (49) Ryan Harney (78) and Graham Edney (88) added the other goals in the second half in what was Abingdon's biggest win of the season so far

Aaron Anaximenes netted a consolation for Bassett in added time, but his team had been knocked for six

And the goals kept on flowing two days later when United dismantled Highmoor 3-0

Butler (44), Jayce Olivero (50) and Kyle Moss (84) did the damage in Reading

Wantage Town also stretched their unbeaten run to five games with a 4-1 home win against an improving Oxford City Nomads side on Friday

A Mark Flanagan (19) strike gave the Freds a 1-0 lead at half time before Jack Powell made it two on 59 minutes.

Nomads tried to make a game of it and immediately reduced the areas through a Jodi Mulvany strike.

But Jim Glover (77) and Jack Dunmall (82) made sure of the points in the last 15 minutes

Wantage (4th) travel to Brackley Town Saints (8th) on Saturday

Nomads (15th) and Abingdon (13th) are without league fixtures until December 23

# Kiddy comprehensively beaten to end winning streak

## Evo Stik round-up

KIDLINGTON missed the chance to move within a point of the Evo-Stik South West play-offs after being hammered 6-1 at Salisbury

Tuesday night's thrashing brought an abrupt end to Kiddy's 12-match unbeaten run.

The Greens traded their hosts who they could have leapfrogged them with a win, 2-0 after 16 minutes and were four down at half time

Chris Janes pulled one back for the Yarnton Road side after the interval before Salisbury added a fifth on 73 minutes

Kidlington's Elliot Osbourne-Ricketts was dismissed in the final 10 minutes and Salisbury completed the rout in stoppage time.

The battering followed a 2-0 win over bottom club Bishops Cleeve on Saturday

Juhan McCalmon's side had to wait until the 69th minute to break the deadlock though as Lance Williams and a Lewis Coyle penalty grabbed the goals

Elsewhere, Didcot Town extended their unbeaten run to four games with a 4-0 win at home to Slimbridge on Saturday

Felipe Barcelos, Marlon Agyakwa, Seth Humphries and Oli Thomas bagged the goals for the Railwaymen.

North Leigh continue to edge towards the top half of the table as they collected four points on the road.

Saturday's 4-1 draw at Cinderford was followed up with a 1-0 win over Paulton Rovers on Tuesday

Michael Hopkins scored from the spot against Cinderford and an own goal secured all three points three days later.

In the East division Lynton Goss scored both goals, including an injury time winner to give Thame United a 2-1 victory at Egham Town on Saturday

Oli Thomas Calabrates scoring Didcot's fourth Pictura *Roger Neal*

**Emirates FA Cup first round**
*Saturday 2 December*
Notts County 3-2 **Oxford City**

**Checkatrada Trophy second round**
*Tuesday 5 December*
Gillingham 1-2 **Oxford United**

**Vanarama National League South**
*Tuesday 5 December*
**Oxford City** 3-1 Truro City

**Evo-Stik South Premier**
*Saturday 2 December*
St Ives Town 2-2 **Banbury United**
*Tuesday 5 December*
Merthyr Town 1-3 **Banbury United**

**Evo-Stik South East**
*Saturday 2 December*
Egham Town 1-2 **Thame United**

**Evo-Stik South West**
*Saturday 2 December*
Cinderford 1-1 **North Leigh**
**Didcot Town** 4-0 Slimbridge
**Kidlington** 2-0 Bishops Cleeve
*Tuesday 5 December*
Paulton Rovers 0-1 **North Leigh**
Salisbury 6-1 **Kidlington**

**Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division**
*Friday 1 December*
**Wantage Town** 4-1 **Oxford City Nomads**
*Saturday 2 December*
**Abingdon United** 6-1 Royal Wootton Bassett
*Monday 4 December*
Highmoor Ibis 0-3 **Abingdon United**

# Puritans end winless spell

## Banbury United

BANBURY United got back to winning ways with a 3-1 win at out-of form Merthyr Town on Tuesday

First half goals from Conor McDonagh and Luke Carnell and a Leam Howards strike four minutes from time brought United's seven match winless streak to an end.

The Welsh hosts pulled a goal back on 62 minutes through Ryan Prosser and the Martyrs had a goal disallowed for offside 60 seconds later

But Howards finished off a fine Banbury counter attack moments later as Merthyr now winless in six, threw bodies forward.

The win came after a run of four consecutive league draws including a 2-2 tie at lowly St Ives Town on Saturday

A McDonagh strike two minutes from time earned Banbury the point as they came from 2-0 down to snatch a point.

United fell behind within four minutes after goalie Jack Harding slipped when clearing the ball. Hurt and unable to get up, Rogan McGeorge fired the ball home from 30 yards into an empty net.

Harding carried on but was picking the ball out the net again on 25 minutes when Ollie Snaith headed home.

Jack Self fired a rebound into the net from six yards just before half time to get one back.

Banbury pushed in the second half and the point was rescued when McDonagh found the back of the net.

United (9th) welcome Royston Town (13th) on Saturday before playing away at Redditch United (10th) on Tuesday.

# U's stay on course for a third Wembley visit

By George Welch

Gillingham 1
Mark Byrne 9 (p)

Oxford United 2
Jack Payne 31, Alex Mowatt 90+2

Attendance: 1,224 (62 away)

ALEX Mowatt's late 20-yard strike fired Oxford United into round three of the Checkatrade Trophy in a closely contested 2-1 win at Gillingham on Tuesday.

United progressed following an entertaining tie at Priestfield – but they did it the hard way.

Having fallen behind to an early Mark Byrne penalty the U's had to hit back through Jack Payne before Mowatt rifled them into the next round in the 92nd minute.

And the men in yellow rode their luck as Gills striker Josh Parker saw an effort crack against the underside of the bar and bounce away only for the officials to incorrectly rule that the ball had not fully crossed the line.

But how United ground out a result was a source of optimism for U's manager Pep Clotet.

"The fact we went through in the cup like that is a massive boost for the players and credit to them because they did the job brilliantly," the Spaniard said.

"We prepared a game plan but Gillingham put a lot of intensity into their pressing. That made it uncomfortable for us in the beginning but afterwards we played to our strengths. We managed to beat Gillingham at pressing then they only had the counter attack against us in the second half.

"We attacked a bit more smartly in the second half and that paid off with the result."

Mowatt's strike, his second of his loan stint from Barnsley, means Oxford are three wins from a third Wembley appearance in as many years.

His goal was a moment of quality, something recognised by his boss.

Clotet said of his match winner: "When he gets the ball near the box and he gets a clear chance to shoot he is a very good player who shows a lot of quality. I'm very happy for him."

The draw for the round of 16 will take place live on talkSPORT at 12.30pm tomorrow (Friday).

Fixtures are scheduled to take place week commencing January 8.

Oxford host Doncaster Rovers at the Kassam on Saturday.

Alex Mowatt scores the winning goal in extra time to put United through to the third round. Picture: Steve Daniels

# Young keeper nets a deal

Max Harris signs his Oxford United deal alongside club secretary Mick Brown. Picture: OUFC

OXFORD United have plucked promising goalkeeper Max Harris from non-league.

The 18-year-old stopper signed for the U's from Evo-Stik Southern Premier outfit Hereford on a two-year scholarship.

Harris, who came up through the Hereford youth system, spent a week training with Aston Villa in August and last year represented both England Colleges and England Schools.

Harris excelled while on loan with Pegasus Juniors last season and made his Southern League debut for Hereford in a 2-2 draw against Barnstaple last April.

It is understood United would only pay a fee if Harris breaks into the first team.

Oxford United's youngsters taking on Exeter at the Northcourt in Abingdon. Picture: OUFC

# League leaders end U18s run

OXFORD United Under-18s' eight match unbeaten run was ended with a 2-0 defeat by league leaders Exeter City at Abingdon United on Monday.

A goal in each half earned victory for the Grecians, with the decider coming just two minutes from time as United pushed the South West Youth Alliance pacesetters all the way.

It could have been a different story and Kyran Lofthouse's 10th minute shot been an inch lower.

The forward smashed the ball against the bar with the Exeter keeper well beaten but unfortunately for United, the ball bounced down and away.

Shortly afterwards the visitors took the lead from a snap shot as Exeter, the last team to beat Oxford in September, finished clinically from inside the Oxford area.

At the other end both Dejon Noel-Williams and Owen James caused problems for the Exeter defenders, and with Albie Hopkins and Lofthouse both also looking to get forward at every opportunity this was an open and entertaining game.

With the U's pushing forward looking to get on level terms they were always susceptible to Exeter breaking quickly and in the 88th minute the visitors took advantage to seal the points and extend their lead at the top.

United welcome second placed Swindon Town to the Northcourt for derby day on Saturday.

# Hopeful win can spark festive success

MATCH winner Alex Mowatt believes Tuesday's progress in the Checkatrade Trophy can be the catalyst to a winning Christmas period for Oxford United.

The attacking midfielder arrowed his 93rd minute drive with precision into the bottom corner to send United into the next round as penalties loomed.

The Barnsley loanee said: "We need to take the positives out of the game. It wasn't the best of games but we've won it and we're through into the next round – but on to Doncaster [at home] on Saturday now.

"There are lots of games over Christmas so it will be good to get a win and build momentum going through the festive period."

It was an entertaining cup tie but United, by Mowatt's own admission, weren't at their best, although progress to the next round was the most important thing.

The 22-year-old said: "It was one of those games you want to win no matter what the performance was like. All the boys want to play at Wembley and that's what we're playing for."

It was also a memorable night for United youngster Malachi Napa who made his senior debut for the club.

The highly rated 18-year-old forward replaced James Henry on 65 minutes to provide Mowatt with the assist, said it was "a great feeling to make his professional debut."

There was also a late run out for fellow youngster Shandon Baptiste.

# Belles chime as United concede five goals

OUFCW

ALREADY ELIMINATED Oxford United Women were heavily beaten 5-1 by Doncaster Rovers Belles in the FA WSL Continental Tyres Cup and their last home game of 2017.

Heading into the match having lost their first three games of the competition, the U's knew they were already out of the competition.

However they fielded a strong side and looked to take the game to Doncaster – but fell behind after 60 seconds. Oxford goalie Claire Skinner collected a Rebecca Rayner headed effort but the referee and assistant referee controversially agreed the ball was fully over the line.

Not long after, Doncaster and Rayner had their second when the striker found some space in the box after a slick passing move to slot home.

The game's third goal arrived on 12 minutes when defender Hannah Short found the back of the net with a flicked header.

Unfortunately for United, that was the end of their scoring and the Belles pulled away in the second half.

Goals from Christie Murray and Jessica Sigsworth within five minutes of each other gave the away side a 4-1 lead before Murray scored her second, a terrific long-range shot, condemning Oxford to a 5-1 defeat.

United, who only scored once and conceded 19 games in their four cup group matches, can put their cup misery behind them when they visit London Bees in WSL2 on Saturday.

Action from Saturday's game. Picture: Dan McClue/OUFCW

# Sport

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*More sport inside:* United: Victory in Checkatrade Trophy | Formula E: Promising start for Lynn | Sports awards: Contenders named

# Last-gasp heartbreak

## City concede in 95th minute to miss out on FA Cup history

By George Welch

### Notts County 3

Richard Duffy 31, Jon Stead 56 (p), Jorge Grant 90+5

### Oxford City 2

Rob Sinclair 53, Matt Paterson 73

Attendance: 5,092 (274 away)

Rob Sinclair pulled City level early in the second half and, later, players applaud the fans who travelled to support them
Pictures: Michael Allen

DEVASTATED Oxford City boss Mark Jones admitted their heartbreaking FA Cup defeat at Notts County on Saturday made some of his squad cry

The National League South strugglers were seconds away from having their name in the third round draw for the first time in their history, only to be denied by a 95th minute County winner

The dogged Hoops lost 3-2 but twice fought back from behind to level the tie through Rob Sinclair and Matt Paterson in front of the TV cameras

A gutted Jones said, "It was heartbreaking. There were a few tears in the dressing room.

"The boys have given everything and we were seconds away from achieving a result and getting them back to Marsh Lane.

"We thought we were in the hat for the third round. We were so, so close – it couldn't have been any closer."

Oxford started brightly but fell behind after half an hour when Richard Duffy somehow bundled home the opener

Former Premier League striker Jon Stead hit the post for the Magpies in the second half but effervescent City charged up the other end and Sinclair fired home a deflected equaliser

County responded quickly and had their lead back three minutes later when Stead scored from the penalty spot

But City don't know when they're beaten and the magic of the FA Cup was almost tangible when Paterson, scorer of the winner at Colchester, struck again, converting a Zak McEachran cut back from close range

The final whistle was just moments away when Oxfordshire-born Jorge Grant struck from close range for the League Two high flyers to end City's remarkable cup run.

The part-timers, who last week revealed debts of nearly £1million, won £42,500 in progressing to the second round, collecting a further £72,000 for the tie being televised.

Jones added: "We couldn't have given anymore and to go down in the game twice we showed tremendous character quality and spirit to get the equaliser on two occasions

"Sometimes you need the football gods on your side but it wasn't to be. "Even the Notts County players said 'you didn't deserve that, your lads are a credit to you'

"Hopefully we'll have many more days like this but at the moment it's absolutely devastating."

## Hat-trick hero Paterson lifts spirits after FA Cup woe

TOP scorer Matt Paterson helped Oxford City get over Saturday's FA Cup disappointment by grabbing all three goals in a 3-1 win against Truro City on Tuesday

The hat-trick hero netted his 11th, 12th and 13th goals of the season as the Hoops overcame the National League high-flyers who could have moved to within a point of the summit with a win

Instead City climbed two places to 17th and lifted themselves away from the drop zone

Striker Paterson gave his side the lead on 18 minutes when he tucked home a rebounded Christian Oxlade-Chamberlain cross

The lead was doubled on the hour when he connected with a Godfrey Poku through ball to slot home with ease.

Truro pulled one back almost instantly thanks to an Andrew Neal strike but Paterson wrapped up the points with a 93rd minute goal to complete his treble

The 28-year-old, who claimed the match ball, praised his "on fire" team-mates as the City players put Saturday's disappointment behind them

He said: "Since the Colchester game [1-0 win in the FA Cup first round] confidence has risen through the squad and the lads started to believe in themselves a lot more

"We've got a lot of good players here, it's just trying to get the best out of them and maybe it just took us time to gel."

City, three points above the division's trapdoor visit seventh-placed St Albans City on Saturday

Taylor Newspapers Ltd

Published by Taylor Newspapers Ltd, Newspaper House, 4A Hawksworth, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 7HR. Telephone 01235 511700 (Head Office). Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6PP

ISSN 2398-6603

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